

UTAH MINUTEMAN

UTAH NATIONAL GUARD JOINT MAGAZINE

Volume V, Number 2

Fall 2005

Utah National Guard



**WELCOME HOME
AFTER A JOB WELL DONE**

Photo by Spec. Kelly Collett



UTAH MINUTEMAN

Connecting the Pieces

Fall 2005

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The Adjutant General's Corner

This has been a sad and sobering few days for the Utah National Guard. The death of Sgt. 1st Class Ronald T. Wood in Iraq has been a stark and challenging reminder of the challenges our Soldiers face in the battlefield. We have now lost four of our fine soldiers to this conflict and my deepest sympathies go to their families. To those who have been wounded, we all pray for the best possible recovery.

I am so very proud of this organization and for its depth and breadth. You are able to deal with so many challenges and obstacles, yet you always accomplish the mission.

The contributions of the Utah National Guard to the current War in Iraq and Afghanistan have been remarkable. In addition you have managed to engage around the world in many other ways to contribute in significant ways to demonstrate what is great and unique about America. The building of schools and clinics in Nicaragua to the humanitarian efforts to assist children in the war zone has been astonishing. You have the ability to win the peace as well as the battles in which you engage.

As we prepare to send three more units into action, we look forward to the return of B Battery, 1/148th Field Artillery. The 222nd and the 115th Maintenance Company will remain deployed, and the 169th from the Air Guard is deployed yet again. Our thoughts and prayers are with these fine Soldiers, Airmen, and their families.

As our troops remain engaged in the battle, we here will prepare ourselves for the evolving transfor-



photo by State Staff

Major General Brian L. Tarbet, The Adjutant General of Utah

mation and modernization. This fall, the Utah Air Guard will receive the R-model engines for our tankers and we will continue to pursue sunrise missions for our Airmen.

On the Army side, your great efforts at preserving our strength will give us opportunities to be in the hunt for new missions and to maintain our core competencies. A recent evidence of this was the acquisition by the 1/145th FA of the Paladin system.

I thank you for all you do. You and your families teach me lessons in

service and commitment every day. The nation and Utah are fortunate to have its citizen-soldiers.



Joint Forces and Army Enlisted Comments



Photo by State Staff

Dell K. Smith, Command Sergeant Major of the Utah Army Guard

It continues to be very busy for members of the Utah National Guard. There are many units that are currently deployed; Battery B, 1st Battalion, 148th Field Artillery, 115th Maintenance Company, 2nd Battalion, 222nd Field Artillery, and various Military Intelligence Soldiers deployed in the Middle East with various units throughout the country. Several units are currently preparing to deploy in the near future: 120th Quartermaster Detachment (Water Purification), 144th Medical Company, and the 115th Engineer Battalion. The Air National Guard continues to stay busy with the 169th Intelligence Squadron performing a critical mission south of the border, the 151 Air Refueling Wing performing critical missions all over the world, and most all of the tenant units have Airmen deployed to various parts of the world. This is a great organization with Soldiers, Airmen and families who do make a great contribution to our nation and state.

The Army has authorized the

Combat Action Badge to be awarded to Soldiers who meet the following qualifications: (1) Soldiers must be performing duties in an area where hostile fire pay or imminent danger pay is authorized. (2) Soldiers must be personally present and actively engaging or being engaged by the enemy, and performing satisfactorily in accordance with the approved rules of engagement. (3) Soldiers must not be assigned or attached to a unit that would qualify for the Combat Infantry Badge or Combat Medical Badge. (4) Award of the Combat Action Badge is authorized from 18 September 2001 to a date to be determined. Award for qualifying service in any other conflict is not authorized. (5) Only one Combat Action Badge may be awarded during a qualifying period. (6) Soldiers may be awarded the CAB, CIB, CMB for the same qualifying period, provided the criteria for each badge is met. However, subsequent awards of the same badge within the same qualifying period are not authorized.

The Army Combat Uniform (ACU) is now being issued to deploying Soldiers, and starting in October Soldiers will be issued the ACU at initial entry training. The uniform will be issued to enlisted Soldiers as they are available. Uniforms are available for purchase on line at many web sites and will be available later in the year at military clothing stores. The ACU is a great uniform that meets the needs of the Army at the current time. It will save Soldiers money because it does not require dry cleaning or sewing of patches.

I would like to take a moment a

pay tribute to four Soldiers who have made the ultimate sacrifice since September 11, 2001 for our country in this time of war. SPC Ryan Stark, Battery C 1st Battalion 145th Field Artillery; SSG Alan Rogers, HHC, 1st Attack Helicopter Battalion, 211th Aviation Group; SGT Brandon Thomas, HHD 1st Special Forces Battalion 19th Special Forces Group; and SFC Ronald Wood, Battery B, 1st Battalion, 148th Field Artillery. Our appreciation goes out to these Soldiers and their families.

Much thanks and appreciation goes to each Soldier, Airman, and family for their sacrifice, commitment and dedication to this great organization. We have led the way and set the standard for others to follow. Keep up the good work.



New Army Combat Uniform

Col. Bruce Frandsen Promoted to Brigadier General in the Utah Army Guard

By Maj. Hank McIntire

Col. Bruce C. Frandsen, recently appointed as Assistant Adjutant General (Army) of the Utah National Guard, was promoted to brigadier general in a ceremony June 1 at Utah Guard headquarters in Draper. At the ceremony Frandsen was joined by his wife, parents, extended family, colleagues, and dozens of supporters and well-wishers.

Maj. General Brian Tarbet presided at the ceremony, and Frandsen's wife, Nyla, and father, Melvin Frandsen—himself a former assistant adjutant general in the Utah National Guard—pinned single silver stars on each of Frandsen's epaulets. Tarbet expressed his support of Brig. Gen. Frandsen's new assignment and rank. "I congratulate Brig. Gen. Frandsen on his promotion. His family has a great heritage of service to the nation and to Utah, and I look forward to his continued service," Tarbet said.

After his pinning, Frandsen affirmed his commitment to his new responsibilities and lauded the Utah National Guard for its commitment to excellence. "I pledge myself to do the best that I can do in the next period of time, whatever that might be" Frandsen said. "The Utah National



Photos by Spec. Kelly Collett

Brig. Gen. Bruce Frandsen is pinned by his father Mel and his wife

Guard is known across the nation as a capable, professional, well-trained group of individuals who understand what the mission is, and they are prepared to do their mission whenever and wherever they are asked to perform."

Nyla Frandsen was pleased and proud of her husband and acknowledged the challenges that lie ahead. "It's pretty exciting. We never really thought we would get this far, but he's been honest and hardworking

and you get further when you do a good job," she said. "I'm a little nervous, but it will be fun to meet new people and try new things."

Visibly proud of his son's new rank and assignment, Brig. Gen. (Ret) Melvin Frandsen offered his perspective on the day's events. "I had the privilege of swearing him into the Guard about 30 years ago. It's a neat experience today to see him stay in and get to this point," he said. The senior Frandsen also offered a little advice for the newest general in the Utah National Guard. "The people you serve with are the people who will make you successful. You just need to take care of them and depend on them," he said. "It's a real privilege and a real stewardship to have this position and responsibility. Don't let it overcome you."



Brig. Gen. Bruce Frandsen, Father Mel, and Brother Col. Ted Frandsen

Assistant Adjutant General (Army) Brig. Gen. Stanley J. Gordon Retires



Brig. Gen. Gordon at the award ceremony at Draper Headquarters

By Maj. Hank McIntire

After 38 years of devoted service to the nation and Utah, Brig. Gen. Stanley J. Gordon, Assistant Adjutant General (Army) of the Utah National Guard, retired officially at a ceremony held in the Draper Headquarters June 2, 2005.

At the ceremony Maj. Gen. Brian Tarbet presented Gordon with the Legion of Merit. The citation read, in part, "For exceptionally meritorious service while serving in positions of great responsibility and trust ... His vision and superb leadership have substantively contributed to the overall readiness of the National Guard and the United States Army."

Following the awarding of the medal; friends, colleagues, and fellow Soldiers presented Gordon with farewell gifts and shared humorous and tearful memories about him which have accumulated over a long and successful career.

As did those who preceded him

in the program, Tarbet paid a touching, personal tribute to the man who served as his second in command for nearly five years. "We don't have a better Citizen-Soldier than Stan Gordon. He has been an impact player the whole time," Tarbet said. During his remarks, Tarbet asked Gordon and all Soldiers in the room E-6 and below to stand. "This is your general," he said to the Soldiers. "To train you, to pay you, to promote you—that's what Stan Gordon is all about."

Gordon, in his remarks, acknowledged that his accomplishments are in large measure a by-product of the great Soldiers and civilians he has worked with. "It's been absolutely delightful to work with a professional team that knows what it's doing," Gordon said. "Since 9/11 we've gone from a peacetime Guard to a high-tempo organization. And you did it without missing a beat." To the Soldiers whom Tarbet asked to stand Gordon said, "You are the future. You're the ones that we worry about."

As the ceremony concluded, a six-piece ensemble from the Utah National Guard's 23rd Army Band played "The Liberty Bell March," "This Is My Country" and "Russian March" as friends and well-wishers formed a receiving line to congratulate Gordon. At the luncheon following the ceremony, Gordon's wife Darcie praised her husband's military service and underscored his commitment to the Guard team. "I'm very proud of him. He's held up his end so that others could do the job that

they needed to do," she said.

Gordon, an artillery officer, was commissioned from the University of Utah ROTC program in 1967 and served 11 years in the Active Army to include a tour in Vietnam as a member of the 4th Infantry Division. In his career, Gordon served as commander of various units to include A Battery, 1st Battalion (Target Acquisition), 26th Field Artillery; 1st Battalion, 140th Field Artillery; and 1st Corps Artillery. Gordon has held other positions of responsibility to include Operations Officer; Executive Officer; Director of Plans, Operations, Training and Military Support; and Director of Information Management for the Utah State Area Command.

Gordon is a graduate of Command and General Staff College and the Air War College. His decorations include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal with one bronze oak leaf cluster and the Army Commendation Medal with three bronze oak leaf clusters. Gordon served as Assistant Adjutant General (Army) from October 2000 to May 2005.



Brig. Gen. Gordon receiving the Legion of Merit Award

Photos by SFC Greg Cullis

Utah Soldier Dies in Iraq, Two Others Wounded



Photo provided by SSG Greenwell

Utah National Guard Soldier, Sgt. 1st Class Ronald T. Wood, killed in action July 16, 2005.

By Maj. Hank McIntire

Sgt. 1st Class Ronald T. Wood, Bravo Battery, 1-148th Field Artillery, based in Logan, Utah, died July 16, 2005 in Kirkuk, Iraq, when the humvee in which he was riding was struck by a roadside bomb.

Wood, along with Sgt. Christopher L. Olsen and Spc. Eric J. Lund, also of Bravo Battery, 1-148th, were riding in an up-armored M1114 and were wearing the prescribed personal protective equipment at the time of the incident. The M1114 has factory-installed armor plating and is the most heavily armored humvee in the Army's inventory.

Olsen took shrapnel to his left leg, and Lund sustained shrapnel wounds to the back of his head, his back and his leg was broken in three places. Both underwent surgery at a nearby military medical facility and were later transported to Germany for further treatment. Both Soldiers are listed in good condition.

Wood, of Cedar City, enlisted in the Utah National Guard in 1994

with the 2-222nd Field Artillery. He transferred to the 1-148th in 2003. He was a full-time employee of the Guard when his unit was mobilized in June 2004.

"I offer my most heartfelt condolences to Sgt. 1st Class Wood's family," said Maj. Gen. Brian Tarbet, the Adjutant General of the Utah National Guard. "This is a great loss for them and for the Utah National Guard. We're mindful of the great cost that some families must bear in this war, and we pledge to them our full and complete support to assist them in whatever way we can."

Utah Governor Jon M. Huntsman Jr., also extended his personal condolences to Wood's family. "Mary Kaye and I send our deepest sympathies. We greatly appreciate the sacrifice that Sgt. 1st Class Wood has made to help Iraq realize freedom. He is truly a hero," Huntsman said.

The Utah National Guard has assigned a Casualty Assistance Officer to assist Wood's family during this difficult time. This officer provides support to the family in every way possible and serves as the liaison between the family and the military for as long as the family may need.



Photo provided by Olsen family

Sgt. Christopher Olsen wounded in action July 16, 2005

Wood is the fourth casualty suffered by the Utah National Guard since 9/11 in support of Operations Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom, and Iraqi Freedom. Other members of the Utah Guard who have paid the ultimate price are as follows:

Spec. Brent Stark, Orem, a member of the 1-145th Field Artillery Battalion, died May 27, 2003, in a military vehicle accident at Tooele Army Depot.

Staff Sgt. Alan Rogers, Kearns, a member of 1-211th Aviation Regiment, died Sept. 29, 2004, in Afghanistan.

Sgt. Brandon Thomas, Salt Lake City, 19th Special Forces Group, died May 7, 2005, in Baghdad while working as a civilian contractor.

Wood's commander, Capt. Darcy Burt, paid a touching tribute to Wood, calling him "the finest Soldier that the Utah National Guard has to offer. Sgt. 1st Class Ronald Wood is the best noncommissioned officer I have ever worked with. He was the total package and I cannot replace him," Burt added. "He has sealed his love for country, duty and honor with his own blood. We will never forget."



Photo provided by Lund family

Spec. Eric Lund wounded in action July 16, 2005

Miller And Sons Go to War



Photo provided by Lt. Col. Richard Miller

Lt. Col. Miller and his 12 Lieutenants from SUU ROTC.

Front Row: 1st Lt. Collin Wallace, 2nd Lt. Brian Luth, 1st Lt. Warren Matlock, Lt. Col. Richard Miller, 2nd Lt. Clayton Anderson, 2nd Lt. Broc Tatum, 1st Lt. Phillip Ogden. Back Row: 2nd Lt. Mark Henrie, 1st Lt. Chris Smith, 1st Lt. Dustin Ray, 1st Lt. Travis Bringham, 2nd Lt. Tyler Young, and 2nd Lt. Dustin Jensen

By Spec. Kelly Collett

Lt. Col. Richard Miller, Commander of 2nd Battalion, 222nd Field Artillery, Utah National Guard, will soon be leading his unit in combat in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

In peacetime, batteries of the 2-222nd are scattered among the cities of Richfield, Beaver, Cedar City and St. George, Utah. Now mobilized, they have completed their training at Camp Shelby, Miss., and Fort Irwin, Calif. After a few days home on leave in Utah they are now back at Camp Shelby making final preparations to ship out to Iraq later this month.

Miller, a former Reserve Office Training Corps (ROTC) Professor at Southern Utah University (SUU)

in Cedar City, is taking along a little help in the form of 12 lieutenants who studied under him as cadets in the SUU ROTC program. Calling themselves -- among other things not fit to print -- Miller & Sons, Spawns of Miller, Miller's Offspring, and Miller's Cadets, these lieutenants recently assigned to the 2-222nd have formed with their commander a tight-knit group of leaders who know what to expect from each other and how to handle any task that may come their way.

As for Miller, he is no stranger to the 2-222nd. He enlisted as a 13F (Forward Observer) with the Triple Deuce in 1981. After achieving the rank of specialist he went to Officer Candidate School (OCS), received his commission and fulfilled multiple

other positions in the battalion. He did everything to include serving as the Fire Direction Officer for Bravo Battery, Battalion Executive Officer, and Service Battery Commander.

Miller then spent four years as an associate professor of military science at SUU. But when he started that assignment he didn't just step into an existing program; he and a few others had to start from scratch. Recognizing a need for getting additional officers commissioned for service in the Utah National Guard, Miller, along with Sgt. Maj. Joseph Spencer and Sgt. 1st Class Paul Fallon, went to the SUU administration to propose the launching of a new ROTC program with an all-National Guard cadre. "The three of us went to SUU and met with the faculty and



Photo by Spec. Kelly Collett

Miller concentrates on guidance he is receiving for the 222nd's training mission while at the National Training Center in Ft. Irwin, California

put together the charter with the Utah Guard and the partnership with the school,” Miller said. “We were the first [all-National Guard] program to start in Utah. In fact, I think we were the first or second program in the nation to do this.”

Miller had 32 cadets the first year, and since then the number of Soldiers in the program has remained between 35 and 45. Their university days now a distant memory, Miller’s lieutenants are adjusting to the realities of preparing for combat. When asked about what it is like to serve with Miller and his fellow ROTC graduates in an actual wartime situation, 2nd Lt. Warren Matlock is optimistic. “I’m pretty excited about it. It makes for a tighter cohesive unit because Lt. Col. Miller knows us,” Matlock said. “He knows our strengths and weaknesses. It helps to build a stronger leadership core to help lead the battalion.”

1st Lt. Phillip K. Ogden was equal-



Lt. Col. Miller stands next to his Brother who is a Sgt. 1st Class in the 222nd



Photos by Spec. Kelly Collett

Soldiers from the 222nd wait before dusk to receive orders to fulfill their mission of patrolling their mock Iraqi village. They were training on what they would encounter while deployed to Iraq. Ft. Irwin was an excellent training facility to prepare them for the dust and heat they will experience on a daily basis when deployed

ly generous in his praise of Lt. Col. Miller as a mentor and commander. “I don’t think I would have any other person as my commander for this deployment. It’s been interesting to see his command philosophy and to see what he’s taught us and actually see it be put into play,” Ogden said. “He’s been giving us a great example here and leading the way for us. I can see that he is just continuing what he taught us in doing what he is doing now,” he added.

One of Miller’s more seasoned cadets, six-year Guard veteran 1st Lt. Christopher L. Smith knows that his leader will hold his officers to a high standard. “Lt. Col. Miller is a good guy and a really good commander. He’s been challenging and

he pushes you to do the best you can. You have to give him a 110 percent,” Smith said.

Miller reciprocates the respect given him by his lieutenants and is pleased with how much they have grown professionally. “These 12 lieutenants we’ve got in the battalion have done really well. They did well as cadets too,” Miller said. “They are able to take those skills and those things they learned and now apply them to the Battalion. It’s very comforting to know that what we did as an ROTC staff paid off.” For these lieutenants, their ROTC instruction has long been complete, but now they are the ones offering leadership instruction to their Soldiers in the Triple Deuce.

The Triple Deuce Leaves Utah



Lt. Col. Richard Miller holds a loved one close as he prepares to board the bus for Las Vegas

By Spec. Kelly Collet

Utah said goodbye June 16, 2005, for at least for a year, to a very spectacular Army National Guard unit--the 2-222nd Field Artillery. The Triple Deuce, as they are commonly referred, has departed for a year-long tour in Iraq.

The 450 Soldiers of the Triple Deuce have been training at Camp Shelby, Mississippi and Fort Irwin, California, for nearly six months. They will spend an additional year on the ground in Iraq. After all is said and done, the Triple Deuce will spend about a year and a half away from loved ones.

Family and friends gathered with their Soldiers in Cedar City and St. George to wish them well and send them off with a fitting tribute. Leaving was not easy for the troops who had crying children clinging to them, not wanting to let their fathers go away. Wives embraced their husbands as tears rolled down their cheeks.

In saying goodbye, those left behind had to let go of a large part of their life and at the same time show their Soldiers that they support them. Family members' tears did not stop once Soldiers were on the bus heading to the Las Vegas airport. In many cases those who had refrained from shedding tears for the sake of "being strong" now let them flow easily as they returned to their vehicles to follow the ensemble of flashing lights that led the convoy onto the freeway.

The Triple Deuce was honored in their departure by supporters who lined the streets waving flags and signs as Soldiers passed. Dump-truck beds, front-end loader buckets and forklift tines were raised in salute to Soldiers passing by.

One proud Utahn stood on the cab of his dump truck with the bed raised as he stood tall with an American flag flying above his head. Others used cranes to raise the American flag to new heights for all to see as the buses drove underneath.



Supporters in St. George, from the armory to the freeway

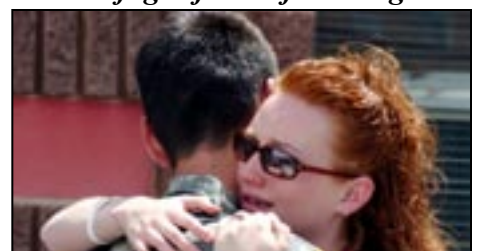


Front-end loaders & dump trucks salute 222nd as the busses pass taking Soldiers to airport

The Triple Deuce was indeed given a hero's farewell and the families, loved ones, friends, supporters and communities will be there a year from now to give them a hero's homecoming.



The 222nd was escorted by the local fire and police departments as they head out of town to catch their flight from Las Vegas



A hard goodbye

Photos by Spec. Kelly Collet



A member of the 222nd standing guard on one of their training exercises prior to deployment to Iraq

When I caught up to the 2-222nd at Fort Irwin recently they were completing some desert-environment training in 'The Box' before heading over to the Middle East. The Box is a smaller version of the 'Sand Box,' which is how Soldiers refer to Iraq and Kuwait. The conditions in the Box at Fort Irwin were designed to be very similar to those which Soldiers will face very soon. They had the heat to deal with and also the dust and sand that is everywhere and gets into everything.

Living in large 100-man tents, members of the Triple Deuce showed extreme tan lines on their faces from wearing Kevlar helmets and sunglasses out in the desert sun. The evenings cooled down enough for Soldiers to try and recuperate from their missions during the day. They rested on their cots with the sides of the tents pulled up to allow air to flow

through. Others continued on with night missions and then tried to rest in the heat of the day.

As a visitor to the Forward Operating Base (FOB) leaders of the Triple Deuce scrounged up an extra cot for

me to sleep on. My plan had been to return to my off-post quarters, but transportation restrictions prevented me from doing so. I had no gear with me, so I wrapped up on my cot as best I could and drifted off to sleep. As the night progressed, the outside temperature dropped dozens of degrees. I actually started shivering and pulled my blouse top over me to get warm. I awoke later in the night and realized that someone had covered me with their sleeping bag. It wasn't until the next morning that I found out who my benefactor was. When I questioned the Soldiers around me I was informed that Lt. Col. Miller himself had personally tucked me in so that I could sleep.

Needless to say, I am in complete agreement with Miller's lieutenants on what kind of leader he is. I was deeply impressed with this man. He struck me as an individual who would take care of his Soldiers, and I'm confident that he will do exactly that for the next year and bring them home safe.



Members of the 222nd in the chow line during training

Photos by Spec. Kelly Collett

Electronic Warriors --Company C, 142nd Military Intelligence Battalion Linguist (Battalion)



Photo provided by Co. C, 142nd MI Bn

Prophet Platoon I in front of their tactical secured classified facility (SCIF) in Northern Iraq.

By Maj. Steve Stephens

Company C, 142nd MI Battalion is the 300th MI Brigade's signals intelligence (SIGINT) element. "Signal intelligence results from collecting, locating, processing, analyzing, and reporting intercepted communications and noncommunications (for example, radars) emitters." In other words these soldiers truly are "electronic warriors."

Currently, Company C, 142nd MI has two 10-man platoons deployed in Iraq performing the tactical side of their military occupational specialty (98G) as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Both are serving as the Prophet Platoon for the organic military intelligence companies of National Guard maneuver brigades they were mobilized with--the 116th Brigade Combat Team and 48th Brigade Combat Team respectively.

So what's a Prophet? Prophet is the modern SIGINT collection system on today's battlefield. The

Prophet system, designed to operate in direct support of the maneuver brigades, gives the commander a comprehensive picture of electronic emitters within the brigade's battle space and provides intelligence and electronic warfare capabilities to the supported maneuver brigades and their subordinate units.

Prophets have quick-reaction signal intelligence capabilities that enable them to go after sophisticated, state-of-the-art threat signals of interest and allow them to see that information in near real time from the tactical level, all the way back to the national agency. Operation Iraqi Freedom is the first time we have ever had a seamless linkage from the tactical level to the national agency and back again. Previously, the information at best got down to the corps level, and now we're able to capture information and signals and transmit them back to the national agency, where they can be

dissected, understood and returned quickly to the tactical level, as well as be retained at the national level to paint a theater-wide picture of what's going on. Both of those programs go after different sets of new signals of interest that we have.

The Prophet platform is a modified, four-seat M1097 high-mobility, multipurpose, wheeled vehicle with a mounted AN/PRD-13(V)2 direction-finding system designed to provide force protection in a direct support role to the maneuver brigade. This system operates in the high, very-high, and ultrahigh frequency spectra. It provides line-of-bearing data and intercept on unencrypted, single-channel, push-to-talk transmissions.

The soldiers of Company C, 142nd MI Battalion are proudly serving as electronic warriors in Iraq. Both Prophet Platoons continue to make a valuable contribution to force protection for other U.S. Forces in Iraq.

Special Utah National Guard Team Trains For Terror Attack Response



By Matthew D. LaPlante,
The Salt Lake Tribune

This article appeared in the Salt Lake Tribune in May 2005:

With four massive engines slung under the 220-foot wingspan of a C-5 Galaxy cargo plane providing the background noise, a group of Utah Guard members who fancy themselves to be the first warriors in a new and frightening kind of war prepped for their first training deployment as a unit.

The 85th Civil Support Team, a specialized group of medics, scientists, surveyors and communication specialists, was formed last year in response to congressional concerns that the nation is unprepared to respond to chemical, biological or radiological attacks.



Photos provided by 85th CST

Members and equipment of the 85th Civil Support Team loading on the C-5 aircraft on their way to the U.S. Army Chemical School in Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri

Members of the 22-person Utah National Guard unit left Thursday for their first stint of training at the U.S. Army Chemical School in Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. If successful there--and during an extensive training cycle that will begin when they return home in two weeks--the team will win certification to respond to what its members euphemistically call "events."

No one gets a job with the 85th by chance. Some members competed with dozens of others for their spots.

Capt. Dean Roberts left his job as an Apache helicopter pilot to take a slot as the unit's operations officer. "As a war fighter, you always want to be on the pointy tip of the spear," Roberts explained as he oversaw the loading Thursday of the C-5 on the tarmac of the Utah Air National Guard base at Salt Lake City International Airport.

"This is a different kind of war and a different kind of war fighting, but it's definitely on that pointy tip," he said. But it is a tip fraught with unknowns--microscopic dangers that U.S. soldiers have not faced before.

Capt. Carol Scott, a medical officer, said she wouldn't have taken a job with the team unless she believed the risk of a weapon of mass destruction attack was real.

"It's possible for it to happen," she said. "For me, it's a higher calling for my country. We need to be better prepared--and the better prepared we are, the less likely it is that we will have an incident."

If that means running into the epicenter of an "event" while others are running out, Scott said she and her team are ready.



Members of the 85th Civil Support Team prepare to load their equipment on the C-5 for transport to the U.S. Army Chemical School

115th Maint. Company Deploys to Southeast Asia



Photo provided by the 115th Maint Co

Members of the 115th Maintenance undergoing Close Quarters Marksmanship (CQM) Training at Fort Bliss, Texas prior to deploying to Southeast Asia

Taken from The Wrench Turner Times

The latest concept in maintenance operations is two tiered, Field Maintenance (DS/MST) and Sustainment Maintenance (GS/Depot). This new concept changed our GS Companies to DS and created Maintenance Support Teams (MST), hence the 115th Maintenance Company (DS) (MST). This new unit was formed by combining the assets of 3 states. The Headquarters element (Headquarters and Headquarters Service, Construction and Armament Platoons) come from the 115th Maintenance Company (GS), Draper, Utah. Our new Wheel (1st Platoon) and Track (2nd Platoon) come from the 3669th GS Maintenance Company of Helena, Montana. The 1035 GS Maintenance Company from St. Louis, Missouri gave us an additional Wheel Platoon which is now 5th Platoon.

Training for the new unit started at Fort Bliss, Texas for the Headquarters element on 28 January 2005. They were joined within the next

couple of weeks by platoons from Montana and Missouri. The purpose of this training was to transition these GS Maintenance elements into a DS Maintenance Support Teams (MST).

From the onset of training at Fort Bliss, Texas (Biggs Field for individual training and Dona Ana for our collective phase) unit cohesion has continually grown. To form a unit from three different states would seem an almost impossible tasking. Due to the dedication, professionalism and expertise of all of the soldiers in each of our seven platoons we have grown to become an organization of unstoppable proportion.

Platoons from ten states were sent to Fort Bliss, Texas to form four separate MST's. that would deploy to Southeast Asia. One Company rose to the challenge to shine above all others. The 115th Maintenance Company (DS) MST was awarded the First Place trophy for training excellence at Fort Bliss, Texas.

Unit Battle Cries and Slogans have been around since the first days of the Military. They are unique to each unit and hold a special meaning to the members of that particular unit. The 115th Maintenance Company (MST) is no different. All members of the unit have trained hard together and have grown to have a "Get UMM Done" attitude toward any tasking given the unit. It would then make sense for the unit to coin the phrase "Get UMM Done". The phrase is particularly unique to our organization as "UMM" represents, Utah, Missouri, Montana. Utah, Missouri, Montana.....a group of the most professional soldiers in the United States Army.

On April 13, 2005, the 115th Maintenance Company, having completed all training and validation for deployment, departed Fort Bliss for the next leg of their journey. The unit was broken down into several "Chalks" (flights) due to the number of soldiers deploying out of Bliss. The first stop for one of the chalks was Bangor, Maine where unit members were pleasantly surprised by an unexpected reception. The Maine Greeters, a group of veterans and supporters provided snacks, free cell phone calls, good conversation and a little wit for our troops during their short stop in Maine. It was very touching to have a group of people you have never met welcome you with open arms and express their sincere appreciation for what we (the American Soldier) do. It further emphasizes what we fight for and why Our Freedom as American Citizens.

The 115th Maintenance Company is Living up to Their Slogan “Get Umm Done”

Taken from the 115th MAINT “Wrench Turner Times”

First Lieutenant Langley of B Company, 172nd Armor, Vermont National Guard, presents Certificates of Commendation to Sgt 1st Class Crockett and Sgt. Anderson for their exceptional maintenance support. Captain Vogrinec receives a Certificate on behalf of all unit members in appreciation for all the maintenance support provided the 172nd Armor, who has been running none stop patrols within their area of operation. The maintenance support provided by the 115th Maintenance was critical in helping the 172nd end their mission successfully before their move to Al Iskandariyah. As their convoy departed the Forward Operational Base (FOB), you could hear the shops personnel call out, “come see us if you need us and we will ‘Get Umm Done!’”

Things are changing for the better in the FOB where 115th Maintenance Company lives. While two Life Support Areas (LSA) have been completed and we are now in our “cans,” construction continues. Our old home is coming down to make more room for more modern facilities and yet another LSA as the FOB grows by leaps and bounds. We have noticed the barricades around the DFAC, the new laundry facility and the dusty vacant lot in the middle of it all, soon to become LSA #1. We have already seen some changes to “TOC Row” with sound barriers by the chapel, another part of the 155th moving to our north and the new Finance Office with a large shaded area.



Sgt. 1st Class Crockett and Sgt. Anderson receiving certificates of commendation from 1st Lt. Langley of the 172nd Armor

Talk around the FOB is that “TOC Row” will soon change and be torn down to make room for who knows what? Details are sketchy, but most of us think we will be here for the dedication.

Now that the 115th has been in Iraq for three months they have come to realize just how hot it is. Friends that have been here before have tried to tell us just how hot the weather was. I don’t think they got the point across until they experienced it for themselves. The commander of the 115th Maintenance Company, Capt. Vogrinec has recently visited all his troops and said “Our soldiers continue to amaze me and really drive the point home about how professional and dedicated National Guard Soldiers are.”



Cpt. Vogrinec shows the effects of the 140-degree heat experienced by members of the 115th Maintenance Company while serving in Iraq

Photos provided by the 115th Maint Co

1-145th Field Artillery Battalion Conducts Paladin Conversion Training



1/145th FA conversion trng. with the M109A6 Self-Propelled Howitzer

By LTC Dallen Attack

The 1st Battalion, 145th Field Artillery began the conversion from the M198 Towed Howitzer to the M109A6 Self-Propelled Paladin Howitzer as part of their three week annual training in June 2005 at Dugway Proving Ground, Utah. Although the Battalion will not officially change their MTOE until September of this year, they did validate the new equipment training on all 18 howitzer crews.

Due to delays in the transfer of equipment from New Mexico, very little maintenance, hand receipting or training was able to be conducted before annual training. The first week of annual training was very busy with Soldiers attending class during the day then pulling maintenance, establishing communication and hand receipting equipment through the evening and into the night.

During the second week, the Paladins began rolling to the field as the Soldiers learned the tactics and techniques of reconnaissance, convoy

and position occupation. There are substantial differences in the occupation and deployment of the Paladin as compared to the towed howitzer. The survivability of the cannon crew is also greatly increased. Soldiers never need to leave the protective cover of the howitzer and they can conduct immediate movements after firing missions, thus reducing the risk of receiving enemy counter fire.

The third week began with a christening ceremony. Each cannon received a name and had a bottle of champagne broken over the muzzle as part of a time-honored, artillery tradition. The week culminated with a five-day, live-fire exercise. The Battalion met the five requirements of accurate predictive fire as all rounds impacted safely and accurately.

The level of responsibility for the NCO Corps has increased dramatically with the Paladin fielding. In the past, the Howitzer Section Chief would be told where to emplace and be given his firing data by the Battery

Operation Center. Now, the "Track Commander" picks his own location within a given quadrant and he computes his own firing data with his on-board Automated Fire Control System computer system.

In addition to the Paladin, the Battalion also fielded the Advanced Field Artillery Tactical Data System. This was accomplished during a three week new equipment training in Wyoming followed by a three week validation during the unit's annual training. The addition of these new systems makes the 1st Battalion, 145th Field Artillery a ready and relevant force for the future.

We would like to thank the Paladin and Advanced Field Artillery Tactical Data System New Equipment Training Teams from Fort Sill, Oklahoma, and the 13B Instructors from the 640th Regional Training Institute for the professional manner that they taught the Soldiers of our Battalion.



Christening ceremony with each cannon receiving a name and a bottle of champagne broken over the muzzle, as part of a time honored artillery tradition that the 1/145th FA completed during their third week of annual training

Photos provided by 1/145th FA

A Letter Home – 151st CSE at Balad Air Base Iraq



Photo and Story by Senior Master Sgt. Doug Lukes

Members of the 151st CES on rotation to Balad Air Base, Iraq

At this time, all the members of the 151st CES are doing fine. I knew that I was going into the unknown for the most part. All the stories we heard about Balad Air Base before we came were informative, but there was a lot left out. We all knew our specialty (job) and could perform the tasks with no problems. We were prepared to take on the challenge.

When we arrived, we were split up. The "Fire Dogs" went to play at the Fire House and the rest of us were playing at CE. Although we were all under the CE hat, we were so busy that we did not see much of each other. We all adapted fast to the important things, like where to eat, sleep and where the latrine was.

The baton was passed off to us as soon as we hit the ground; we took hold and started to run. It was a little shaky at first, but after the first two weeks, things started to settle down to the point you could catch your breath.

All of us would be working late and also called out in the middle of the night for various reasons. In my shop, we were running sweepers and spall crews around the clock, so I needed to be available at all times. Other shops were also running a 24/7 service. Not much sleep in the first few weeks.

Once you get into a routine you try to stick with it. At least that is what I tried to do. Going to the shower was always an experience. You had to plan the best route, because of the rain that we were receiving early on. The mud here is very sticky and will get on everything.

Once you arrived at the shower and finished, you walked out the door and you stepped right in the mud. You tried not to track this mud back to your room, but the mud was everywhere. Exercising was another function that you had to plan out as well. Bring an extra pair of shoes to wear in the fitness center and do not track mud in. Plan the time so that you are able to use your favorite machine. I found that 2:00 AM worked best for me. I changed that as soon

as I found out that sleep was important, too.

The days start flying by, many days go by and then you realize that you have not had a day off for a month and a half. Oh well, you press on and hope that one day you can have that day just to reenergize your body and mind. You find time to go to the PX and find out that it is a very busy place. I think everyone just likes to hang out there just to do something with their time. The Burger King, Subway and Pizza Hut are always busy as well. A little taste of home in a way! Hair cuts are cheap, \$3.00. Get one and fit in with the crowd; high and tight! Not much sightseeing on this trip. We all miss home and our loved ones.

We know that we have missed birthdays, anniversaries, kids' little mishaps, new arrivals (grandchildren), family functions, holidays and many, many more special days. We know that we are loved and that we are supported by our family and friends back home. We are ready to come home and enjoy our time off with our families and friends.

The “Air Pirates” 1/211th Returns Home After Leaving a Humanitarian Mark in Afghanistan



Photo by SFC Greg Cullis

Members of the 1/211th Returning Home

By Kathy Stephenson, *The Salt Lake Tribune*. *Tribune* reporter Dawn House contributed to this story.

The following article appeared in the Salt Lake Tribune on April 18, 2005: Yellow--as in yellow ribbons--may be the official welcome home color for U.S. troops. But on Saturday, the family of Sgt. Fred Drysdale made sure his homecoming after 16 months in Afghanistan was perfectly pink. The Layton family wore fuchsia colored shirts, carried dozens of pink balloons and even waved neon signs as Drysdale, one of 140 members of the Utah National Guard's 211th Aviation Battalion, stepped onto the tarmac at the Utah Air Guard Base in Salt Lake City.

"We started sending him pink packages while he was gone so that they wouldn't get lost," said his

sister Sunny. "Then it got to be a kind of joke." Drysdale was one of the first soldiers off the plane, which landed about 2:30 p.m. His wife, Marcinda, could not contain her excitement, ducking under the yellow police tape to give her husband a long awaited embrace. "I'm glad she ran out," said Drysdale, whose departure on Jan. 5, 2004, was five days before his first anniversary. "It's been way too long."

This was the second deployment for many of the attack Apache helicopter pilots, medics, mechanics and support crews of the 211th, known as the "Air Pirates." The unit had been ordered to Kuwait in late 2001 for a six-month deployment to help support the U.N. sanctioned no-fly zone over Iraq. Coalition aircraft often encountered hostile fire from Iraqi troops on the ground.

During their Afghanistan mission, the choppers supported coalition troops seeking out insurgents. From their base at Bagram Airfield in north-central Afghanistan, the Utah soldiers also helped obtain eye surgery for a 5-year-old Afghan girl and then arranged a life-saving operation in Southern California for an

11-year-old Afghan boy suffering from a heart defect.

In addition, the unit adopted the remote Afghan village of Jagdalek, raising money to buy blankets, clothes and other humanitarian supplies. Back in Utah, spouses organized a nonprofit group to help the poverty-stricken village and also an orphanage of 500 boys and 150 girls outside Kabul.

One of the Battalion's members did not return home Saturday. On September 29, 2004, Staff Sgt. Alan L. Rogers, 49, of Kearns, died in Bagram of noncombat-related injuries. He is the first Utah Guard member to die in the war zone.

Tracy Palmer said she started crying tears of joy and relief early Saturday and couldn't stop even when her husband, Chief Warrant Officer Royce Palmer, was at her side. "I've just missed him so much. It's been so hard," she cried. "It seemed like it would be forever until he got home."

Most of the soldiers said their only mission now was to spend time getting reacquainted with loved ones and enjoying home-cooked meals and comfortable beds. "I'll spend time with family and get back to normal civilian world," said Spec. Brent Duncan, of Brigham City, who will celebrate his son, Sanford's, third birthday today. That, of course, had the whole family tickled pink.

109th Air Control Squadron Remembers Airman Lost in Iraq

By Lt. Col. David Thomas



Photos by Master Sgt. Burke Baker

Squadron members render a final salute to Airman Holte.

Airman 1st Class Antoine J. Holt lost his life in a mortar attack on his tent at Balad Air Base in Iraq on Easter weekend in 2004, but his friends still honor his memory. Airman Holt was serving with the 332nd Expeditionary Air Control Squadron (EACS). Members of the 109th Air Control Squadron, Utah Air National Guard, were also serving at Balad with the 332nd EACS. Many had become close friends of the young airman, who was described as having a positive attitude and a love of life.

The 109th returned from Iraq last June and conducted their annual training at the Wendover Airport the last two weeks of March. Since the

squadron was all together again, the Commander, Lt. Col. Ken Gammon, decided to hold a service on Easter weekend to honor the memory of a fellow airman and friend who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Airman Holt may have been raised in Georgia, just outside Atlanta, but he had ties to Utah. His favorite NBA player was John Stockton. According to the more athletic members of the 109th ACS, he played basketball like Stockton also.

The flag used at the ceremony was flown in his honor last on July 4th at Tooele's Soldiers' Field. The 109th obtained the flag and presented it to Senior Airman Sarah Brennan, a representative of his squadron. The

603rd Air Control Squadron plans to put the flag in a memorial display at Aviano Air Base, Italy.



Honor guard prepares to raise the flag at the memorial service for Airman Holte.

Major Cotner Receives the Bronze Star



Photos by Master Sgt, Burke Baker

Maj. Joseph Cotner salutes Maj. Gen. Brian Tarbet after he presented him with the Bronze Star

By Lt. Col. David Thomas

Major Joseph A. Cotner, the 109th Air Control Squadron maintenance commander, was awarded the Bronze Star on March 25, 2005, by Maj. Gen. Brian L. Tarbet, for meritorious achievement as the commander of Detachment 1, 332nd Air Expeditionary Control Squadron at Kirkuk, Iraq during their 2003 to 2004 deployment.

Major Cotner was credited with providing high-quality radar coverage for northern Iraq from November 2003 until June 2004. His detachment produced an equipment operation rate of 99.5 percent.

He also led his team in successfully accomplishing the first ever field camouflaging of the TPS-76

Radar sail while in the field. The radar sail was camouflaged to prevent insurgent attacks against the site.



Members of the 109th holding a ceremony in the field

Operation African Lion Offers a Chance to Help



Photos by Master Sgt. Burke Baker

Members of the Utah National Guard participating in Operation African Lion in Morocco

By Senior Airman Christiana Elieson

Desert sand whipping your face the moment you walk out the tent door, bouncing up and down in the back of a five-ton truck on wash-board roads and eating only Meals Ready to Eat sounds like another typical deployment; however, for a group of Soldiers and Airmen from the Utah Army and Air National Guard, Air Force Reserves and an active duty U.S. Embassy liaison it wasn't.

They recently returned from a humanitarian mission deployment that was a part of African Lion 2005, to Tan-Tan, Morocco, where they gave over 900 locals a service few had ever been able to enjoy, health care. The group – made up of a dentist, an obstetrician and gynecologist, optometrists, translators and assistants – opened the eyes of children, eased toothaches and diagnosed ailments for four days in a desert clinic in southwestern Morocco. In a four-day period, they treated hundreds, with many still who could have used the treatment but did not receive it.

Those who came for treatment found out about the clinic by word of mouth. "The people had a great need," said Master Sgt. Burke Baker, photographer and videographer for the 151st Air Refueling Wing. "When we first rolled up to the hospital for the first day, there were probably 500 people standing outside waiting for us and it had not been advertised except through word of mouth. So, the first day we got there we were quite surprised to see all these people crowded at the gate all wanting to see the doctors."

Although it was surprising to have so many people waiting to see the doctors, "It was absolutely wonderful," said Lt. Col. Paul L. Blackburn, vice commander for the 151st Medical Group. "There were lines of 300 to 500 patients a day, and some came from 300 miles away."

Most participants came away from the mission touched by at least one of the people's appreciation or joy for what they had done for them. "One time we did a simple dental cleaning on a young lady and she started

to bawl because of how happy she was to have her teeth cleaned," said Master Sgt. Michael Clough, non-commissioned officer in charge of immunizations for the 151st Medical group. "It made you realize the importance of the service we provided them with."

Another opportunity that some of the group received during their time in Tan-Tan, was to deliver school supplies for a school being built by the Navy Seabees. Four were chosen to take school supplies gathered by the members of the group, to local schools, said Baker. "They, the Moroccans, loved it."

However, much we got done we realized that it was only a small amount of what could be done.

"The mission was really successful. We provided good care but it was a drop in the bucket compared to the need," Blackburn said. "Being able to provide this care was extremely rewarding. Hopefully, we'll get to go back and do this year after year with other groups in Morocco," said Clough.

Community-Based Health Care Organization Making a Difference in Utah



Photo provided by Utah CBHCO

Group photo of the Utah CBHCO, including the Army Surgeon General and one of their Soldiers Spec. Lenior, from the Montana Guard

By SSG Brian Schiele

In today's National Guard environment, stories of injured Soldiers coming back from Iraq and Afghanistan are common. Until recently, a wounded National Guard Soldier made their way back to the mobilization station to receive treatment, sometimes having to stay there long after their unit has returned home. However, thanks to Community-Based Health Care Organizations (CBHCO), a new Army program, most of these stories will have a happier ending.

The basic mission of the Utah CBHCO, as well as the other seven CBHCOs in California, Arkansas, Wisconsin, Massachusetts, Virginia, Florida, and Alabama, is to serve as a medical holding company. Under the CBHCO program, Soldiers are allowed to return home and still remain on active-duty Title 10 orders. They perform limited military duty and receive medical care at the same time.

In January of this year, the second and biggest wave of Soldiers was mobilized as part of the Utah CBHCO. It consisted of nine Guard members

from Utah and one from Montana, as well as a Utah Reserve Soldier and one active-duty Soldier.

Says Utah CBHCO Commander Major Paul Whiting, "I have never been assigned to Army duty that is more personally rewarding and so focused on putting the Soldier first. Our company's motto is 'Soldiers Serving Soldiers,' and that's what we do."

In addition to serving Guard and Reserve Soldiers from our state, the Utah CBHCO is also responsible for Soldiers in Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Wyoming, Montana, and North and South Dakota. Platoon sergeants conduct daily accountability through phone calls to their Soldiers at their assigned work sites.

One of the first success stories of the Utah CBHCO was a young specialist who had received serious injuries from a roadside bomb and had spent several months at a traditional medical holding company before coming home to recuperate in Utah.

As Platoon Sergeant, Sgt. 1st Class Douglas Dellinger explains, "At first

this Soldier didn't open up to us as we had hoped, but after being here inprocessing with us, he realized that we genuinely care about our Soldiers."

Dellinger adds, "After he was done with his processing I took him to the airport to go home. On the way, he opened up to me even more. Once we arrived at the airport he shook my hand and said, 'Sergeant, I am forever in your debt.' I told him, 'You have that all backwards, young man; we are all in debt to you.' He then reached out to give me the most appreciative hug I have ever received."

Many of the Soldiers who have come through the Utah CBHCO have made similar comments in their post-inprocessing questionnaires.

One high-ranking officer patient wrote, "My experience with the Utah CBHCO was the first time in 20 years of active and reserve service where I felt the Army truly cared about my health. It was a truly outstanding experience. I felt very supported by the Utah team."

Another Soldier wrote, "My experience was more than I had expected. Everyone has a positive attitude, which made me feel welcome to be back home."

In response to what is being considered the largest troop movement of reserve-component Soldiers since World War II, the Army is successfully taking care of Soldiers who have been wounded or injured while mobilized. The CBHCO is fast becoming a win-win-win for the Soldier, their family, and the Army.

Colonel Ruediger Tillmann Retires after 36 Years of Dedicated Service

By SSG Nicholas Pond

Ruediger (Ruedi) Tillmann, DDS, retired after 36 years in the Utah Army National Guard. Colonel Tillmann was born on December 21, 1950 in Hamburg, Germany. Colonel Tillmann joined the National Guard on August 11, 1969 as a vehicle repairer. He was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant, Military Intelligence, in 1975. His first assignment as an officer was assistant section leader of the polish language section.

He earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in finance in 1976 from the University of Utah and another in zoology from Weber State University in 1980. He then went on to be awarded a doctor of dental surgery from Chase Western Reserve University in 1984. His military education included the Utah Military Academy OCS, the Military Intelligence Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, and the Command and General Staff Course.

Colonel Tillmann served in many assignments in the 142nd MI Battalion which culminated in his assignment as Battalion Commander of the 142nd Military Intelligence Battalion (Linguist) in 1992. He then served as Deputy Commander 300th MI Brigade (Linguists) in December 1995. He became the Brigade Commander of the 300th in April 1996. In March 2000 he assumed command of the 97th Troop Command. In this role he supervised eight, widely diverse units. These units included the 23rd Army Band, the 85th Civil Support Team, Headquarters Detachment 97th Troop Command, the 115th



Photo provided by 97th Troop Command

Colonel Ruediger (Ruedi) Tillmann, Commander of 97th Troop Command retires after 36 years of dedicated service

Maintenance Company, the 120th Quartermaster Company, the 128th Public Affairs Detachment, the 144th Area Support Medical Support Company, and the Medical Command for the Utah National Guard.

Colonel Tillmann is married to

Wendy Tillmann and they have five children. Currently in his civilian capacity he operates his own dental practice in Murray, Utah.

Colonel Tillmann's retirement ceremony took place in June 2005.

Final Flight for Retiring Wing Commander

Photos and Story by Airmen 1st Class Andrew Howells



Retired Col. Larry Johnson made his last flight on March 31, 2005. After returning from a successful mission, the nice and sunny spring day turned to rain as Johnson and his KC-135 were drenched by two fire trucks and buckets of water.

Col. Johnson flew over 6,279 hours during his military career.

Not Your Ordinary Gas Station Attendant



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mike Evans

Master Sgt. Brian Larson takes his place in the refueling pod as he prepares to deliver fuel to another aircraft

By Airmen 1st Class Andrew Howells

Since early childhood, people have been taught that pumping gas is a poor job that no one would ever want, but in the Air National Guard, pumping gas becomes a task that no ordinary Joe or Jane can perform.

Transferring fuel at speeds in excess of 400 mph and at elevations of 25,000 feet, refueling becomes a high-stress, high-risk job that our people make look easy.

The Boom Operators in the 191st ARS are the Air Force's best of the

best, when it comes to in-air refueling operations.

With enough fuel on board to last the average driver 46 years, the mission of air refueling is no small task. Using the resources of the entire base, the mission of refueling is the primary mission of the Utah Air National Guard.

Tech. Sgt. Karen Keely, one of Utah Air Guard's boom operators, has been perfecting the art of in-air refueling for the last seven years with the Utah Air National Guard. Clocking over 2,493 hours in the air,

Tech. Sgt. Keely has become the unofficial token female boom operator for the wing.

Colonel Kelvin Findlay, Vice Wing Commander for the 151st ARW said, "Our boom operators set a level of excellence in all that they do." Col. Findlay was the Ops. Group Commander and worked closely with all the boom operators.

He continued, "This excellence is known Air Force-wide and is well deserved for the level of perfection our wing has proven over the last several decades."

1-145th Field Artillery Christens New Howitzers with Booms and Bubbly



Photo by Paula Nicholson, Dugway Proving Ground Public Affairs

A 1-145th Soldier christens his new Paladin M109A6 Howitzer

By Maj. Hank McIntire

First Battalion, 145th Field Artillery, Utah National Guard, formally retired their old M198 howitzers and christened new artillery pieces in a ceremony at Dugway Proving Ground. Brig. Gen. Patrick D. Wilson, commander of I Corps Artillery, ceremonially ordered the final-fire mission of one of the Battalion's eighteen M198 155-mm howitzers to recognize the weapons' collective service and to officially retire them. The old weapon was fired once and towed away to Fiddler's Green, the legendary resting place for old artillerymen and their weapons.

Soldiers of the 1-145th then followed a time-honored tradition by naming their 18 new artillery pieces--M109A6 Paladin self-propelled howitzers--and breaking a bottle of champagne over each muzzle. The

practice of naming cannons can be traced back at least as far as Civil

War days when artillerymen from Virginia christened four of their guns Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

Some of the names Soldiers chose for the new guns reflected the power and capability of the Paladin: Apocalypse, Judgment, Attila's Fury, Thor, Rolling Thunder, and Attack Attack, in honor of 1-145th Commander Lt. Col. Dallen Attack. Names given to some of the other new howitzers--War Pig, Sara Jane, Miss Kitty IV and Pig Dog--defied explanation.

After the christening, Wilson addressed the Soldiers assembled and complimented them for having what it took to be entrusted with the new weapons system. "Today is a day of celebration. We turn the page and open another chapter," he said. "Your dedication, hard work, and great service are the reason these Paladins



Photo by Maj. Hank McIntire

Paladin crew pulls the lanyard to fire the weapon for the first time

are here.” Wilson added, “Without a doubt, we have the best artillerymen this nation has to offer,” to which Attack and his Soldiers responded spontaneously with a resounding, “Hooah!”

At the conclusion of the ceremony, Attack presented Wilson with a special unit coin commemorating the 20 years of service of the M198 howitzers to the battalion. Crews then moved the new Paladins into a firing line and calibrated (fired) the weapons to determine individual howitzer muzzle velocities. Establishing the muzzle velocity on a new artillery piece is important because that data will be factored into the firing equation along with such things as distance, wind, temperature and humidity to make the necessary calculations for the round to hit the target on the first try.

As he watched his Soldiers move their Paladins into firing position, Attack reflected on the meaning of the day’s events. “Bringing in the



Photos by Maj. Hank McIntire

Cadet Curtis Nielsen left, and Spc. Kendall Redmond, from Alpha and Charlie Batteries, 1-145th, respectively, pose with Redmond’s assigned howitzer, Crypt Keeper

Paladin to replace the M198 keeps the 1-145th relevant to the future missions of the Army,” he said. “This new howitzer greatly enhances our responsiveness to front-line Soldiers and increases the survivability of our own unit members.” Attack explained

that a field artillery unit from another state was initially slated to receive the Paladins, but they were unable to maintain the required troop levels to support them. That opened the door for the fully manned, 1-145th to receive the new system.

Attack’s Soldiers were equally excited about having the new howitzers in the battalion’s inventory. Spec. Kendall Redmond, Charlie Battery, 1-145th, trained on the Paladin at AIT (Advanced Individual Training). “I’m really impressed with the Alpha 6 (Paladin). They’re the most advanced thing the Army has,” said Redmond as he stood next to Crypt Keeper, his assigned howitzer. Alpha Battery’s Cadet Curtis Nielsen agreed. “When we were at AIT, they told us we probably would work with the M198. So when the word came down we would be switching to the Paladin we were extremely excited. It makes us more combat ready and more effective,” he said.



Lt. Col. Attack, left, presents Brig. Gen. Wilson with a unit coin commemorating the 20 years of service of M198 howitzers to the 1-145th

1457th Engineer Battalion Change of Command



Lt. Col. Jefferson Burton relinquishes command of the 1457th Engineer Battalion after almost three years as the Unit's Commander to Lt. Col. Robert Dunton

*Written by Spec. Kelly K. Collett
(Maj. Hank McIntire and Maj. Lorraine Januzelli contributed)*

The 1457th Engineer Battalion of the Utah Army National Guard conducted a change of command May 15, 2005 at the Camp Williams parade field. At the ceremony, Lt. Col. Jefferson S. Burton officially relinquished command to Lt. Col. Robert T. Dunton. Burton had commanded the 1457th since August 2002. During his tenure, the battalion served for more than a year in Iraq in 2003-04 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

While in Iraq the 1457th conducted a variety of missions to include building security barriers for Iraq's new police force, clearing and mapping a series of interconnected tunnels and bunker complexes beneath the Baghdad Airport and constructing a rifle range for coalition forces' weapons training.

Typically, the battalion worked numerous missions concurrently, responding to each with meticulous planning and execution. It was not long before the 1457th was dubbed the "911 Battalion." First Armor Division's Engineer Brigade Commander Col. Don Young oversaw the 1457th Battalion's efforts in Iraq and had firsthand knowledge of their accomplishments. He formally recognized the Battalion's performance in a memorandum to Maj. Gen. Brian Tarbet, the Utah National Guard Adjutant General. "The 1457th quickly became my 'go-to' unit. I assigned my toughest, high-visibility missions to this Battalion knowing that they would always succeed in a timely and efficient manner," Young wrote.

Burton's wife Charn, when asked about her husband's service as the 1457th commander, said "I'm incredibly proud! I'm glad that he could take part in preserving freedom and serving our country."

Burton said of his troops, "The



Lt. Col. Burton returns the unit colors to Col. Willis who turns them over to the new commander Lt. Col. Dunton



Photos by Spec. Kelly Collett

Lt. Col. Robert Dunton the new commander of the 1457th

Soldiers of the 1457th did a remarkable job in Iraq, just like thousands of other units fighting in the War on Terror." He added, "Our service was not particularly unique, but it was honest and dedicated. Our reputation with those that know us is a positive one. We gave our best to every mission."

Burton will continue his service to the Utah National Guard by attending the Army War College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania and will return to Utah next year. Dunton assumes command of more than 500 Soldiers assigned to units in American Fork, Mt. Pleasant, Price, Tooele, Vernal, Spanish Fork, Blanding, and Camp Williams.

Enlisting with the Battalion 20 years ago as an E-1, Dunton has served in every available position. "I'm excited about taking command and taking over such a successful Battalion," Dunton said of his new assignment.

New Military Intelligence School

By Sgt. Scott Faddis

Instructors and staff of the 640th Regional Training Institute (RTI) are very busy working to prepare for a new addition to its family. The new "baby" will be a new Military Intelligence (MI) branch that will offer two courses this summer with another course to be added next year.

The new MI branch is a huge undertaking for the 640th because the courses are being offered as full-resident courses, meaning that the students will study and live at the school full time. Typically reserve-component courses are offered either in two-or three-week training cycles, or students travel to an active-duty post to take the full course.

The two courses being offered this year are the Counterintelligence Agent and Human Intelligence Collector (formerly known as Interrogator Course). The Tactical Intelligence Analyst course will begin in January of next year. Up till now, these courses were only available at Fort Huachuca, Arizona.

"The 640th is offering these courses to alleviate some of the strain on the active component in training both active-duty and reserve-component Soldiers," said Sgt. 1st Class Ray Helvy, the Counterintelligence Agent course manager.

There is also a larger-than-normal demand because the Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) of Interpreter/Translator is being phased out and Soldiers holding that MOS are now required to become either human intelligence collectors or counterintelligence agents.

According to School Branch Chief Master Sgt. Tip Boxell, instructors at



Photo by Sgt. Scott Faddis

Master Sgt. Boxell surveys his task list, ensuring all items are completed before the first courses begin

the 640th have shortened the courses to nine weeks, thus making it easier for National Guard and Reserve Soldiers to attend. "All of our students have already done their initial training and are volunteering to come to this school, which goes beyond their normal commitment," Boxell said.

The RTI is also able to shorten the courses because of the professionalism and experience that they expect from their prospective students, a large number of whom will be from Utah. "We are dealing with a remarkable group of people. Many of them are from the 300th MI Brigade, which has six battalions across the United States and two in Utah," said Boxell.

The 300th MI Brigade supports the 640th in the belief that students will succeed in the shortened courses. Brigade Plans Officer Maj. Mike Allison, knows that reserve Soldiers expect that their time be used to the fullest. "I predict that eventually the National Guard course will have more content in the same course length as the active-duty course," Allison said.

Boxell acknowledges that the courses will be very intense. The

days could run late into the night if needed to accomplish the mission. He is confident that the students will be able to handle the intensity of the courses, and he is impressed most by staff and student levels of education.

Instructors have worked as human intelligence collectors and counterintelligence agents in Kosovo, Bosnia, Kuwait, Guantanamo Bay, Afghanistan and Iraq. They are one of the most important components to ensure the success of this course. "It is very important that our instructors have real-world experience," Boxell said.

In addition to backing from the Army MI community, the opportunity for the RTI to conduct these courses in many ways stems from the Utah Guard's willingness to support this new endeavor. Boxell feels that the Utah Guard has been and will be crucial to the future success of the branch.

"The 1st Corp Artillery is letting us use their classrooms, the 300th MI Brigade is breaking their backs to support us, and Maj. Gen. Tarbet is bound and determined to make this happen," Boxell said.

640th Regional Trng. Institute Changes Leadership



Photo by SFC Ken McNeill

Command of the 640th RTI transfers from Col. Linda Higgins to Col. Edward Willis. (From left to right) Col. Bruce Frandsen, Col. Linda Higgins, Col. Edward Willis, and Command Sgt. Maj. Joseph Spencer.

By Sgt. Scott Faddis

The 640th Regional Training Institute (RTI) conducted a change-of-command ceremony May 15, 2005. Colonel Edward Willis, formerly the 115th Engineer Group commander, replaced Col. Linda Higgins, who is moving on to command 97th Troop Command. Higgins served in many roles while at the RTI. She served as the commander of the following units: Officer Candidate School Company; 2nd Battalion, 640th Regiment and most recently as 640th regimental commander.

Higgins became well respected throughout TASS (The Army School System), especially in the Western United States. She represented all schools in the West as the Region

G Advisor to the Plans, Operations, Readiness, and Training Advisory Council.

Command Sgt. Maj. Joseph Spencer worked side by side with Higgins as the regimental command sergeant major. "Her leadership has led us to our current growth and the soaring status of the 640th Regiment nationwide," said Spencer.

Command Sgt. Maj. Karl Shuler, commandant of 1st Battalion, considers Higgins one of the best commanders he has ever worked with. "She had a very dynamic impact on the regiment's mission. She displayed exceptional foresight and knowledge about the academy and where it could go," he said.

The 640th is expanding the num-

ber and types of courses it offers. The RTI is currently standing up a Military Intelligence (MI) Battalion, which will teach its first courses later this spring. Besides starting the MI Battalion and classes, the RTI is also expanding its role in teaching artillery courses and NCOES (Non-commissioned Officer Education Courses). Willis is going to have a lot to oversee in the coming months.

"Colonel Willis' guidance will play a huge part in where the regiment goes in the future," said Shuler. Soldiers and staff of the RTI are anticipating a smooth transition as Willis takes the helm. "I look forward to working with Col. Willis; he is an analytical and deliberate type of leader," said Spencer.

Counterdrug Part of Guard's Homeland Defense

By Staff Sgt. Cheryl Hackley

"The Guard's number one priority is the security and defense of our homeland, at home and abroad," according to Army Lt. Gen. H. Steven Blum, Chief of the National Guard Bureau.

"As homeland defense operations continue to evolve around this priority, nowhere is it more apparent than in the Guard's fight against illegal drugs and narcotics trafficking," he added.

Blum is referring to the National Guard's successful Counterdrug Program. It employs near 2,500 Soldiers and Airmen to work together in a variety of jobs to reduce the use and abuse of illegal drugs and disrupt the supply and demand in all fifty four states and territories.

"We play a central role in shaping our nation's response to drugs and associated transnational threats," said Air Force Col. Earl Bell, Chief of the National Guard's Counterdrug Program.

Many of the known terrorist



Utah Guard members help in Counterdrug Mission



Photos provided by DDR

A member of the Utah National Guard Drug Demand Reduction Team teaching a class to a youth group

groups, including Al Qaeda, have connections to the illegal drug funding. President George Bush's 2002 National Drug Strategy stated 70 percent of the world's opium trade came from Afghanistan. This resulted in a significant income source to the Taliban and others who supported the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks.

Because the drug trade generates a lot of cash, an alliance between terrorists and drug trafficking is not surprising, said Blum.

He added that trafficking delivery systems provide potential avenues for other transnational threats to enter the United States. Reasons like these are why Americans should be aware of just how much drugs continue to threaten their homeland.

"Subtle insidious attacks through the sale and use of illegal drugs will also erode our core values and tear at our culture and institutions," said Col.

Bell. "It brings enormous personal, social and economic expense."

So much so that the National Guard cannot tackle this task alone. The Guard's Counterdrug Program also works as a liaison between the Department of Defense and non-DOD institutions in the fight against prohibited drugs and large scale threats at home. This includes nearly 5,000 law enforcement agencies, according to Gen. Blum.

"The National Guard is supporting law enforcement and community-based organizations at all levels of government to anticipate, prevent, deter, and defeat those threats," said Col. Bell. "This enhances national security and protects our society."

Trained Soldiers and Airmen with unique military skills and equipment make the National Guard an ideal leader in America's fight against drugs, Blum said.

Basic for Airmen May be Extended to Eight Weeks



Photos by Senior Master Sgt. William Ferguson

Air Force trainees graduating from Basic Training

By 2nd Lt. Kevin Larsen

Basic Military Training (BMT) officials at Lackland Air Force Base, are looking at making some of the largest changes to their curriculum since the introduction of Warrior Week in 1999.

If the training program is approved, BMT will be increased from six-and-a-half to eight-and-a-half weeks. The increase in training is due to feedback and the changing

times we are experiencing with the War on Terror.

The additional time will be used to teach new recruits additional skills that should greatly increase their effectiveness and survivability in combat. Trainees will be issued an M-16 at the beginning of training and they will keep this weapon with them through the entire eight weeks.

The "BEAST," Basic Expeditionary Airman's Skills Test, will replace

Warrior Week. The "BEAST" will be similar to Warrior Week; however, there will be a lot more time focusing on skills such as convoy combat and defensive firing.

Officials are also looking at contracting out the laundry detail and decreasing the amount of time spent on the "clothing drawer" by having airmen roll their clothes instead of the meticulous folding.

During a recent visit to Lackland, Brig. Gen. Brent E. Winget was briefed on the current curriculum of BMT and introduced to some of the possible new changes. Winget also had the opportunity to eat lunch with some of the trainees and experience firsthand the environment trainees live in during basic training.



Basic Training at Lackland Air Force Base



Brig. Gen. Winget eats lunch with two Utah Guard trainees

Utah Air National Guard Provides Community Service to T'iis Naz Bas School



Members of the Utah National Guard pose with Mr. Pat Baxstrum, the school's technology coordinator

By Lt. Col. David Thomas

Members of the Utah Air National Guard, led by Chief Master Sgt. Steve Mullin, once again visited the Navaho Bureau of Indian Affairs School in the Four Corners area from May 9 through May 14, 2005. The Utah Air Guard has been active in helping the school with their classroom computers and servers since the summer of 2000. Members of the Guard have visited once or twice a year to repair computers, load software and fix network problems.

Mr. Pat Baxstrum, an industrial arts teacher and technology coordinator, has been the point of contact for the Guard. He is retiring this next May after 20 years of teaching at the school. Mr. Baxstrum, who has little formal network or computer training, has over the last five years become the school's network guru. According to Chief Mullin, "He will

be sorely missed."

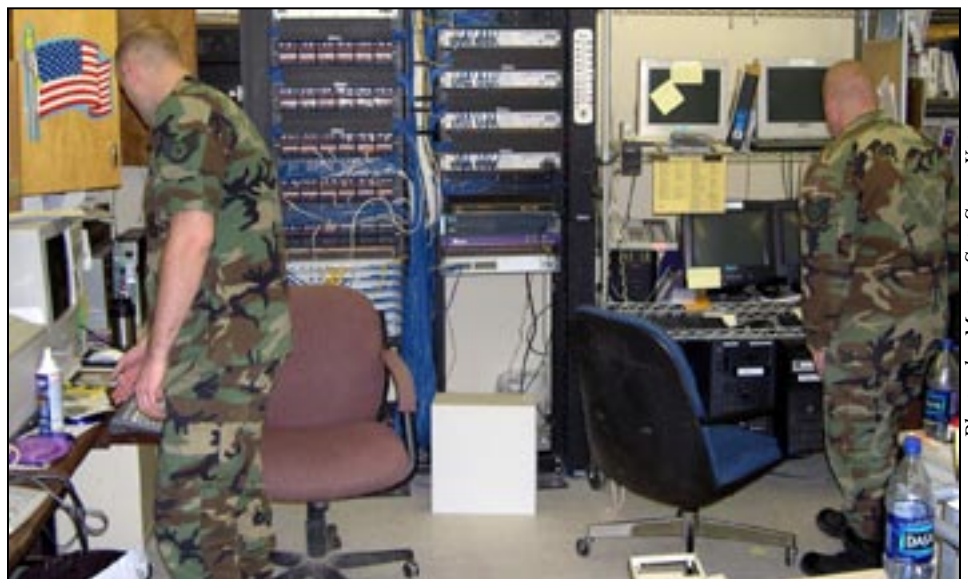
Tech. Sgt. Billy Goodman and Michelle Deschamps stayed at the school one evening, ate dinner with the students and participated in a ca-



Tech. Sgt. Billy Goodman loading software on a computer in one of the school's classrooms

reer seminar for students and parents. Both found the experience to be very rewarding.

Accompanying Chief Mullin were Master Sgt. Steve Yates, Communications Flight; Tech. Sgt. Michelle Deschamps, 299th Range Control Squadron; Tech. Sgt. Billy Goodman and Staff Sgt. Trevor Christiansen, 169th Intelligence Squadron and Staff Sgt. Curtis Hodge, Communications Flight.



Staff Sgts. Curtis Hodge (left) and Trevor Christiansen working in the server room at the school

Photos by Master Sgt. Steve Yates

Soldier and Citizen the Same Day



Manuel Herrera is enlisted in the Utah National Guard

By Maj. Hank McIntire

On the same day he became a U.S. citizen, Manuel Herrera also enlisted as the newest member of the Utah Army National Guard's 144th Area Support Medical Company. Herrera, 39, took the oath of citizenship on April 28, 2005 in the Rose Wagner Theatre in Salt Lake City. His Guard enlistment ceremony took place at the Utah National Guard's Draper headquarters that same day.

Herrera, a Lehi resident and Petatlán, Mexico native, fulfilled two important goals by taking these two oaths: Becoming a citizen of the nation he has called home for 13 years and receiving training that will qualify him as an Army medic.

Sergeant 1st Class Brett Hardcastle, a Utah National Guard recruiter, pointed out that just a month ago, Herrera, 39, could not have enlisted

at his age. "The age limit for enlisting in the Guard used to be 35. Now that the limit has been raised to 39, more people like Manuel have an opportunity to serve their country,"

he said.

Hardcastle said that Herrera qualified for a \$10,000 enlistment bonus, \$17,568 for college, and will receive medical training as a 91W—the Army designation for combat medic—at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, after he completes Basic Training. Once he returns from his initial Army training, the money for college will help Herrera to reach his career goal of becoming a registered nurse.

Herrera is thrilled at the opportunity his country and the Utah National Guard are providing him. "It will not only help me with my career goal, but as a nurse I can also help other people like me who are new to our country and can't speak English," he said.

And with the change in the maximum age for enlistment, money for college, and bonuses, others like Herrera can make a midlife career change with a lot of help from the Guard.



Friends and family congratulate Manuel after enlistment

Photos by Spec. Kelly Collett

Dangerous Recruiter



Spec. Jorge Sanchez tests on calling in fire. He uses the radio to talk to the Fire Direction Control, and the binoculars to see the rounds impact

By Sgt. Scott Faddis

Recruiters have always been dangerous, and this one just became a lot more dangerous. Specialist Jorge Sanchez is learning the skills of a Forward Observer (FO), or 13F in Army lingo. The FO's are commonly known as the deadliest person on the battlefield.

They are so deadly because as members of the field artillery their job is to call for fire on the enemy in the form of high-explosive shells. A skilled FO attached to a maneuver unit in the infantry or armor can quickly end an ambush by the enemy, soften targets for the infantry and destroy hardened fighting positions.

Sanchez works full time in Orem, Utah, as a recruiter for the National Guard and the Utah Valley State College Reserve Officer Training Corps. His training as a former Marine Scout and Infantryman makes the

13F skills a perfect fit for him.

"Fire Direction Control (FDC), this is Bravo-One-One. Adjust fire, over," Sanchez calls in. He is sitting on a hilltop three miles from the target area and taking his test on calling in fire from a grid.

"Adjust fire, out," replies 2nd Lt. Jessie Frampton. Frampton confirms to the FO that the artillery is ready to receive the fire mission.

"Grid ... (a six digit grid coordinate). Break. Direction, Four-Five-Zero-Zero, over." Sanchez is targeting an old abandoned bus in the impact area. The grid is his estimation of where the bus is on the map, and then he will guide the artillery directly onto the target.

Sanchez then lets the artillery know what the target is, what type of round he wants used, and once the bus is targeted he wants them to fire extra rounds to ensure that it is destroyed. "One Bus, H-E (high explosives) quick in effect, out."

"Target number Alpha-Alpha-Zero-Zero-Seven four rounds, out," Frampton calls back. She lets Sanchez know the fire for effect will be four rounds.

"Zero-Zero-Seven shot, over," Frampton calls to let Sanchez know the shot should be any minute.

KABOOM! The 100-lb high-explosive rounds fired from 155-mm howitzers are five miles away, but they still sound like thunder crashing down.

Sanchez waits for the shell to impact. He scans with his eyes until he sees the black smoke of the explosion. He quickly puts the binoculars to his face so that he can direct fire even closer to the target.

"Zero-Seven, left four hundred, over," Sanchez calls into Fire Direction Control to let them know the adjustment that is required.

"Left four hundred, out."

After two more rounds from the howitzers, Sanchez is right on the target and orders the fire for effect on the bus.

"Drop Five-Zero, fire for effect, over," calls in Sanchez.

Within two minutes there are four loud booms, and the bus is covered in a cloud of smoke. When the smoke clears, you can see that the bus has moved a few feet due to the hits and explosions. Any enemy elements near the target would have been destroyed.

After graduating from the Forward Observer class, Sanchez returns to his job as a recruiter. Although his first love is the field, he finds recruiting to be another important part of his life.

"Being a recruiter is a difficult job, but it is real rewarding. Setting up a kid's first bank account or seeing one graduate from college and then giving them a job afterwards. There is nothing more rewarding than seeing that," said Sanchez.



Watching for shell impact

Photos by Sgt. Scott Faddis

Diamond Rio Honors Utah Troops



Photo by Airman 1st Class Andrew Howells

Country's multi-platinum group Diamond Rio honors Utah Troops In a spectacular music event sponsored by Associated Foods

By Airman 1st Class Andrew Howells

Country Super-group Diamond Rio and Associated Foods honored Utah troops in a spectacular event at Abravanel Hall.

Presented as "Night of Honor," this event proved a major success as the sold-out crowd filled the performance hall.

Diamond Rio member and Utah native Dan Truman said, "The Utah guys have an incredible reputation as leaders in the fight." He contin-

ued, "Paying tribute to these guys and being from Utah makes it extra sweet!"

Also at the event was Utah's premier barbershop group "Saltair," named after the tourist site along interstate 80 on the west side of the valley.

"I know that my family and I truly pray for [the troops] every night in both personal and family prayers," said Truman. He added, "I believe that it is the least I can do to show my support for all the

troops."

This multi-platinum country group performs over 200 hundred shows each year. "It's such a great treat to be able to do a show that honors our troops," said Truman.

Rich Parkinson, CEO of Associated Foods said, "We, as a business, thrive because of the men and women who fight for the freedom that has established this wonderful free enterprise system that our country has been built upon."

Saddam Hussein's Boots Retire to Utah



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Sterling Poulson

Sgt. Sam Dean and Sgt. Jason Bulkley in front of the "Boots" display at the Fort Douglas Museum

By Tech. Sgt. Sterling Poulson

Sgt. Jason Bulkley and Sgt. Sam Dean of the Utah Army National Guard were part of a four-man intelligence team assigned to the 1st Brigade Combat Team of the 4th Infantry Division. Working with a translator, their work eventually led to the informant who revealed the hiding place of Saddam Hussein. Although they were not part of the raiding party on Dec. 14, 2003, they had the opportunity to visit the site three days later.

The boots, now on display at the Fort Douglas museum, were removed from the 6-by-3 feet "spider hole" where Saddam Hussein was

found hiding. Dean and Bulkley found the boots among other personal effects of the former dictator. Since the boots were with his belongings and the area was sealed off by the 4th Infantry Division, it is certain that the boots were Saddam's.

Over 1,500 Americans have paid the ultimate price and thousands more have been injured helping the Iraqi people establish a new government. Operation Iraqi Freedom continues to advance the hope of a better life for millions.

Bulkley put it in perspective, "The feeling of satisfaction after nine months of work, day and night finally came to a head and it was worth it!

To see a man who was the oppressor of millions, living in palaces and ending up being caught in a hole in the ground with only a fan, reading light and a tube for fresh air, was poetic justice."



Saddam Hussein's Boots on display at Fort Douglas

Photo by retired Master Sgt. Ren Willey

Boss Lift to Camp Shelby to Visit Triple Deuce



A Utah National Guard KC-135 prepares to take-off from Cedar City enroute to Camp Shelby, Mississippi to visit the Triple Deuce

By Sandy Phillips, The Richfield Reaper

The following article appeared in the Richfield Reaper in April 2005:

Several area business leaders experienced first hand what life was like for members of the Triple Deuce, who were training at Camp Shelby, Mississippi, preparing for deployment to Iraq. The opportunity presented itself when they were invited to participate in the "Boss-Lift" program hosted by the Utah Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR).

The Program is designed to provide employers a better understanding of what soldiers do in the line of duty when they are called upon to leave their jobs. Several of those who took part in the April 13-15 boss lift to Camp Shelby said they came

back with a greater appreciation for the intensity of the training, as well as the sincerity and dedication of the Soldiers.

The trek also provided some with a more realistic picture of the technology and equipment being used by the Soldiers than what they said they had seen reported by the national media. "They have the latest technology in every aspect," said Penny Fuellenbach.



Lt. Col. Miller explains the Battery's training



Entrance sign for Camp Shelby, Mississippi



Maj. Gen. Tarbet visits with boss lift participants during visit



Boss-lift participants visit with members of 2nd Battalion, 222nd FA during their training at Shelby

bach, who represented The Richfield Reaper in the boss-lift event. The vehicles, which have been a major concern of civilians, as well as friends and families of the Soldiers, are all being "armed-up" according to Fuellenbach. She said they also have the latest body armor, uniforms, and helmets. "Seeing it really does help put your mind at ease," Fuellenbach said.

"It was a great experience," is the sentiment participants continued to echo. "If you weren't a true American when you got there, you were when you left," said Kim Robinson, of Salina. "It was really tough to leave – I'm just glad it was dark." Robinson said after spending time with them, he had such an appreciation for the Soldiers and their families that he wanted to stay and let them go home.



County Commissioner makes presentation to 2/222nd.

Photos by Penny Fuellenbach/Richfield Reaper

Air National Guard Director Visits Utah ANG Base



Photos by Lt. Col. David Thomas

Lt. Gen. James is greeted on the flightline after his arrival by Utah ANG Commander, Brig. Gen. Brent Winget; Wing Commander, Col. Denise Schofield; and Vice-Wing Commander, Col. Kelvin Findlay

By Lt. Col. David Thomas

Lt. Gen. Daniel James, III, the Director of the Air National Guard, flew in to the Utah Air National Guard Base to visit with The Adjutant General and the commanders of the Utah Air National Guard, on Friday, June 3, 2005.

Gen. James was in town to attend the Readiness Frontiers 2005 conference at Snowbird Ski Resort and give the keynote address at the plenary session. The conference is designed to give trauma training and certification to Air National Guard medical personnel.

General James had lunch with

The Adjutant General and commanders, hosted by the 109th Air Control Squadron and the 169th Intelligence Squadron. After receiving a command briefing, the general answered questions for nearly two hours. A host of subjects were covered from the effects of Base Alignment and Closure (BRAC), to the future of the Air National Guard flying mission.

Gen. James was open and sincere with his answers, which provided quite a bit of insight into the thinking at the higher levels of the military.



Lt. Gen. James speaks with Maj. Gen. Tarbet and Brig. Gen. Winget during the command briefing and question session held at the 109th Air Control Squadron

Female Artillery Surveyors, a New Dimension for Today's Army National Guard



Photo by Sgt. Scott Faddis

Spec. Dawn Carlson and Staff Sgt. Kristl Bray listen as Mr. Tom Vogan explains the rules for rounding survey numbers

Sgt. Scott Faddis

As a sign of changing times, two female Soldiers trained as artillery surveyors recently at the Utah National Guard's 640th Regional Training Institute (RTI). Specialist Dawn Carlson, Indianapolis, Indiana, and Staff Sgt. Kristl Bray, Riverton, Utah, prepared for a job typically given to males by going through the first phase of the Surveyor course and will finish the second phase later this year.

As a member of the Indiana National Guard, Carlson worked in the 38th Division Artillery's Intelligence section and wanted to become a surveyor to have the opportunity to go out into the field more often. "I wanted to do this training because I love the field," she said. "I joined the Army so that I could play in the mud and the dirt." Carlson knows that the field is not all fun and games, but she really enjoys the tactical aspect of being in a survey section that can

be miles away from the protection of howitzers.

In phase one of the course, both Soldiers and their classmates learned basic field artillery survey skills. Sergeant 1st Class Corry Starr, Surveyor course manager, explained what it takes for students like Carlson and Bray to complete their training. "Students learn how to accurately measure distances, using an instrument called a SED-ME (uses laser to measure distances within millimeters)," Starr said. "They use a T-16 Theodolite which measures both vertical and horizontal angles, and they learn how to put the data that they just learned into a field recording notebook."

Trainees also spent time using a handheld terminal unit (HTU). The HTU is an artillery-specific computer that records survey data, performs all the mathematical computations for determining angles and locations on the earth and communicates with the howitzers.

Like Carlson, Bray, a Utah National Guard supply specialist with the 640th, is also becoming a surveyor to get more time in the field. She is an avid camper and is anxious to put her newly acquired skills to the test. "I plan on taking a solo backpacking trip into the Uinta Mountains and using the map and honing my surveyor skills," she said.

For surveyors, accuracy is a crucial component of their work. In fact, it's very common for surveyors to check their work at least four times to ensure accuracy. "It's a safety issue in peacetime; it's an accuracy issue in wartime," says Starr.

Carlson, Bray, and the other 70-90 students going through the Survey Courses each year, benefit from the dedicated cadre of the 640th RTI. Instructors have a vast range of experience in all aspects of field artillery surveying. According to Starr, one instructor on staff spent 10 years as a chief surveyor both in the active Army and the National Guard. His expertise is in using all of the traditional math and logarithms. Another instructor is well versed in all the new technologies, thus providing a good balance of experience in the old and new approaches to surveying.

Starr's advice to anyone who wants to be a surveyor is simple: "People who are the most successful are intelligent, physically fit and have a passion for doing it right." Bray and Carlson are living proof that those qualities—and not your gender—are what matter most in training for and doing the job as an artillery surveyor.

Father of Local Guardsman Presents Hand-Carved Sign for Fort Douglas Recruiting Office

By Maj. Hank McIntire

The Utah National Guard officially accepted a hand-carved, wooden recruiting sign June 11, 2005 from Hal Hardcastle, father of Utah Guard recruiter Sgt. 1st Class Brett Hardcastle, at the Fort Douglas Museum in Salt Lake City.

A retired teacher, coach, and sergeant major with 27 years of service with the Army Reserve's 96th Regional Readiness Command, the senior Hardcastle took up woodcarving after he retired in 1977. Hardcastle started out by making simple wooden Christmas plaques for family and friends and now carves logos, wildlife and decorative pieces with an extraordinary amount of detail. When asked about the reasons for doing the carving, Hardcastle smiled with gratitude and pride. "All my boys have served in the military. I wanted to do something to help my son the recruiter," he said. "The more I worked on this project the prouder I got for what it represented. I've always looked for opportunities to better myself, and this a chance to do something to pay something back," Hardcastle added.

Son Brett appreciates his dad's two-month effort to cut, carve, glue and paint the basswood sign featuring the well-known image of James Montgomery Flagg's Uncle Sam with 'I Want You' on one side and 'Utah Army National Guard Recruiting Station' on the other. "It's a legacy of my father and his woodcarving ability. He would have done this for anybody, but the fact



Photo by Maj. Hank McIntire

Lt. Col. Jefferson Burton accepts the new recruiting sign from Hal Hardcastle as son Sgt. 1st Class Brett Hardcastle looks on

that he did it for me makes it doubly special," he said.

Hardcastle's sons entered the sign on his behalf in the Utah Woodcarvers Show earlier this year, and the piece won first place in the open category.

Lieutenant Colonel Jefferson Burton, Director of Civil-Military Relations for the Utah National Guard, accepted the sign on the Guard's behalf. "We say thanks to Hal for this gift and his service. We will display this sign proudly," he said.

The presentation coincided with Army Day, a celebration of the 230th anniversary of the Army, sponsored by the Fort Douglas Military Museum and the U.S. Army Reserve's 96th Regional Readiness Command.

Hardcastle was joined at the ceremony by his wife, children and their spouses. He was pleased to be a part of the celebration of the Army's birthday. "I'm here with the family I created, and my other family is the Army. And I'm proud to be a member of both," he said.

Information Utah Guard Members Should Be Aware Of And Use

Attention Purple Heart Recipients

Provided by the Utah Division of Veterans Affairs



The 2004 Utah State Legislature passed a bill into law, which requires Utah institutions of higher learning to waive the tuition of a Utah resident admitted to an undergraduate program of study leading to a degree or certificate, if the student has received a Purple Heart as a result of military service. If you have any questions please call the Utah Division of Veterans' Affairs at 1-800-894-9497.



Photos from UNG Files

Members of the Utah National Guard who are serving in combat zones should be aware of this benefit provided by the Utah State Legislature

New Scholarship for Veterans

Provided by the Utah Division of Veterans Affairs



Utah Guard members returning home from duty in Iraq

Americans who served in Afghanistan and Iraq will have the opportunity this fall to win college money through a new scholarship fund expected to reach \$10 million.

The Horatio Alger Military Scholarship is billed as the first national scholarship specifically for Afghani-

stan and Iraq war veterans.

Former U.S. Ambassador to Spain George Argyros and his wife, Julia, created the fund by donating \$5 million, which the Horatio Alger Association for distinguished Americans aims to match through fund raising. The nonprofit group provides college

scholarships and mentoring to needy students.

Scholarship applications, due Sept 1, are available at www.horatioalger.org/scholarships-military. Applicants must prove honorable discharge and financial need and must intend to pursue a bachelor's degree at an accredited U.S. school.

Flag Day June 13, 2005



Above, the Honor Guard guard leads the parade from the Park to Washington Square. The Color Guard is from left to right: Sgt 1st. Class Joe Bowcut; Sgt. 1st Class Allen Jackson; Sgt. 1st. Class Joe Bowen; Sgt. 1st Class Russ Lo. Top Right: Lt. Governor Gary Herbert, Maj. Gen. Brian Tarbet and Mayor Rockie Anderson watch as the parade arrives. Bottom: members of the Honor Guard finish firing a 21-gun salute and come to Parade Rest. The Honor Guard is from left to right: Sgt. Jennifer Kelley, Sgt. Scott Campbell, Staff Sgt. Chris Williams, Staff Sgt. Matt Brown, and Staff Sgt. John Mark



Above, Mayor Rockie Anderson, Lt. Governor Gary Herbert, and Lane Beattie sign a letter affirming support for the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserves

Photos by Sgt. Scott Faddis

211th Honored as Provo's Freedom Festival Parade Grand Marshall



211th Grand Marshalls of Provo Freedom Festival Parade

By Maj. Hank McIntire

First Battalion, 211th Aviation, recently returned from service in Afghanistan, was honored as the grand marshalls of Provo's Freedom Festival Parade July 4. Leaders and soldiers of the 211th received the longest and loudest ovation of all entries as they rode along the parade route down Provo's University Avenue and Center Street in a vintage World War II Half-Track vehicle.

"I was awestruck and humbled by the response of the crowd and appreciative of the many vets who came up to shake my hand," said Capt. Matt Badell of the reception he and his fellow Soldiers received in representing the 211th.

The Utah Air National Guard provided a KC-135 refueling tanker and the Utah Army Guard added Apache helicopters in two separate flyovers for the parade.

The 1-145th Field Artillery supplied a 155-mm M109A6 self-propelled howitzer as the Utah Guard's parade "float." The Paladin—as it is called—is the assigned weapon

for Utah's artillery units currently serving in Iraq. Identical banners on both sides of the howitzer read, "We salute our 4,500 Army Guard Soldiers and 1,700 Air Guard Airmen currently serving throughout the world. We also recognize the support and sacrifice of their families and employers."

Riding on top of the howitzer were Sgt. Jordan Grimstead, Senior Airman Stephanie Wassmer, Master Sgt. Robert Bean and Staff Sgt. Doug Kunkel with his wife Donna and son Josh.

Grimstead, of the 116th Engineer Company in Spanish Fork, returned from deployment to Iraq earlier this year and was the Utah Army National Guard Soldier of the Year in 2004.

Wassmer is the 2005 Utah Air National Guard Airman of the Year and an information management technician with the 169th Intelligence Squadron, Salt Lake City.

Bean was deployed to Krygyzstan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom with the 151st Air Refueling Wing, Salt Lake City.

Like Grimstead, Kunkel also served with the 116th Engineer Company in Iraq.



The Utah National Guard's parade float an impressive "Paladin"

Photos by Maj. Hank McIntire

Staff Sgt. Briones Receives the 2005 Colonel Carl F. Eifler Reserve Award

By Staff Sgt. Scotten H. Whaley

Staff Sergeant Marco E. Briones, Company C, 142nd MI Battalion (Linguist) received the 2005 Colonel Carl F. Eifler Reserve Award. This award is given annually to only one reserve component leader. Staff Sgt. Briones and his wife Janet were flown to Washington, D.C. in May to attend the National Military Intelligence Association awards banquet where Lieutenant Generals Daniel Graham and Vernon Walters presented the award.

Staff Sgt. Briones was recognized for his hard work while deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom II. Sergeant Briones served in Iraq from February 2004 to February 2005. He was initially assigned to the 312th MI Battalion and then attached to the 25th Cavalry Regiment and 112th Cavalry Regiment. He was stationed at Camp War Eagle on the north side of Sadr City in Baghdad, Iraq. He served as the Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge of all Tactical HUMINT Teams (THT) of the 1st Cavalry Division, and was the team leader for THT 504 that operated in Sadr City, Baghdad, Iraq.

His team rolled over 80 weapons caches, detained more than 260 insurgents and potential terrorists and captured seven of the ten most wanted men by the 1st Cavalry. Sergeant Briones ran more than 120 sources that provided valuable intelligence that led to more than 170 reports. More than half of these reports were acted upon immediately, including one that led directly to the elimination of an insurgent mortar team that had attacked Camp War Eagle more

than 20 times.

The THT 504 and Staff Sgt. Briones were instrumental in the successful execution of Operations Iron Fury I and II and Operation Crossroads. He worked with his sources to determine which areas of Sadr City were infested with insurgents and helped capture five of the ten most wanted on those three operations alone. More than a dozen foreign fighters were also detained and sent to a holding center for further questioning and source development. In all, more than 260 insurgents were detained due to Staff Sgt. Briones' efforts.

Staff Sgt. Briones also worked closely with the Iraqi National Guard, local police forces, mosques and other community leaders. They assisted with projects that greatly increased the confidence of the local populace in the United States Army and its soldiers. Some of these projects included the installation of water mains, power lines and sewage systems. They assisted in setting up these projects with the mosques who would help control the crowds and allow the work to get done. These types of projects had two results: the people were grateful to have power and water services restored and it helped the Iraqis to trust THT 504 and led to greater cooperation between the Iraqi civilians and the United States Army.

Staff Sgt. Briones was selected as he best personified the spirit of Colonel Eifler. Colonel Eifler enlisted in the Army Reserve as a private in 1928 and received a commission after completing his officer training



Photo provided by 142nd MI Bn

Staff Sgt. Marco Briones with his wife Janet being honored at the National MI Association

through correspondence courses. In 1942 while assigned to the Office of the Coordinator of Information, later renamed the Office of Strategic Services, General William Donovan directed Col. Eifler to establish and train a paramilitary unit in the China / Burma / India Theater. Col. Eifler and this unit, called Detachment 101, established a school to teach selected indigenous people all aspects of espionage and sabotage. During World War II, Detachment 101 and its indigenous agents were responsible for rescuing over 200 downed airmen from capture, sabotaged the railroad system, and cleared the enemy from more than 10,000 square miles. They were credited with 5,428 Japanese kills and 10,000 wounded, while the detachment itself experienced only 22 American and 184 indigenous people killed. Col. Eifler received the Air Medal and the Legion of Merit for his acts of bravery and was inducted into the Military Intelligence Corps Hall of Fame in 1988.

Camp Williams Makes Good Use of Its Windy Environment



Photo provided by facilities

A new wind turbine is installed at Camp Williams to generate power

By Staff Writer

Tim Parkinson, the Utah National Guard State Energy Manager and Facility Coordinator, has become a wind power expert. He picked up his wind power knowledge while helping make Camp Williams the Army National Guard's first wind turbine site. It all began in the mid-90's following the passage of the Energy Policy Act of 1993 and 1994 Presidential Executive Order #12902, Energy Efficiency and Water Conservation at Federal Facilities.

As Camp Williams explored its options, wind power just made sense. A site was available that would not impact training, and there were no objections from surrounding communities. The benefits of wind power include the reduction of utility bills, fossil fuel consumption and air pollution. "The wind blows out there all the time," said Parkinson. Camp Williams, located at Point of the Mountain overlooking the Jordan Narrows, forms a natural

hour glass that funnels the wind right through. A study of wind speeds at Camp Williams from 1992 to 1994 showed a consistent velocity of 10 to 14 miles per hour, which falls within the economically feasibility range for wind-powered generators.

The first wind turbine at Camp Williams was operational in January 2000. A larger second turbine is now installed. The turbines were built in Denmark and shipped to Utah for on-site assembly. "Installation of this second turbine is significant because it will put Utah on America's wind power map," said Robi Robichaud, a senior engineer with the Federal Energy Management Program's National Renewable Energy Laboratory. He worked on getting Camp Williams' second turbine up and running. "It's the first wind-powering site in the state and will produce one megawatt of power. It's a big step forward," he said.

These wind turbines will help bring the nation a bit closer to its goal

of increasing the amount of renewable energy used by Federal agencies. The 1999 Executive Order 13123 set a goal for Federal agencies to shift 2.5 percent or 1,334 gigawatt hours of energy they consume to renewable sources by 2005. In addition to wind, renewable sources include solar power and energy created from biomass (e.g. methane gas from decomposition in landfills). As of December, at least 1.212 gigawatt hours of energy used by Federal government agencies came from renewable sources, which leaves 122 gigawatt hours to go.

"The U.S. is the largest energy user in the world, the U.S. government is the world's largest energy consumer," Robichaud said. "The move toward renewable sources is a realization that there is a finite supply of resources, so we need to come up with and pursue alternatives."

Once the first unit became operational, technical glitches and maintenance provider issues caused 136 days of down time over three years, which is high. However, with a new maintenance contract in place to cover both turbines, Parkinson hopes to have them running at full capacity. Parkinson said he hopes more wind turbines are in Camp Williams' future. By actively seeking energy savings opportunities and committing to renewable energy sources, the Utah National Guard is serving as a role model for energy awareness," Parkinson said.

Jeff Harris of Vestas-AWT from Evanston, Wyoming is the site manager. Travis Dees is the contract Manager for Vestas- AWT.

The Army Military Affiliated Radio System Works With Utah National Guard on “Scouting For Food”



Photo provided by MARS

MARS voice and packet station located at the dispatcher's office of Yellow Transportation Company in Salt Lake City

By Randall Shreve

The Military Affiliate Radio System, or MARS for short, gives members the avenue and focus to refine normal amateur radio skills to a more disciplined and professional skill set. This skill set adds greatly to their ability to assist in communications whether in emergency or community service settings.

The MARS professional and service orientated approach works well in assisting our country's men and women in uniform. The MARS credo “Proud, Professional & Ready” is the positive “Mission Statement” that leads to radio related opportunities and increased personal enrichment.

Working with the Utah National Guard is truly one of those avenues of enrichment and Saturday, 26 March 2005, was another opportunity for Utah Army MARS to work side by side with the Utah National Guard, Boy Scouts Of America, the Utah Food Bank and a host of other organizations on the annual “Scouting For Food” food drive.

While thousands of Boy Scouts gathered sacks of donated food, volunteers loaded donated commercial cargo trailers, some carrying as much as 30,000 pounds of food each. These trailers of donated food were then transported, free of charge, by Yellow Transportation Company to the Utah Food Bank where members of

the Utah National Guard unloaded them. Close to a million pounds of food were collected in a single day for later distribution to the needy.

At locations ranging from Provo to Salt Lake City, MARS digital radio and radiotelephone communication specialists worked closely with the National Guard and other organizations to assist in the flow of communications to achieve a successful food drive for the Utah Food Bank. “Scouting for Food” is another fine example of the National Guard and the Army Military Affiliate Radio System working together serving our customers--our communities, state, and our country.

Utah Army Guard's Retention Team Ready and Willing to Help Stop Backdoor Losses



By Staff Sgt. Steven Greenwell

Photo by SFC Kenneth McNeil

We all come from different walks of military life; however, we all have the same mission statement--Stop the Back Door Loss! Recruiting is doing their part by getting Soldiers in, now it's our job to retain them! We all feel very strongly that every Soldier is entitled to be well informed, well trained to ensure our Soldiers are both physically and mentally fit, and to be ready for any task. If we do not take care of our Soldiers we only aid in their failure. As part of the state retention team, our focus is not only on unit morale but on the Soldier and their families. We aim to retain quality soldiers who have much to offer the unit, the Utah Army National Guard and the nation. To accomplish this important task, let me introduce you to the State Retention Team:

From left to right back row: Command Sergeant Major Sidney Cardon began military service on 22nd of September, 1969. He has been with the 115th Engineer Group and has served with the Artillery as a mechanic and fire direction NCO. He is currently the state retention NCOIC. He also is the post Command Sergeant Major

of Camp Williams. He was activated for the 2002 Olympics and spent a 16-month tour in Iraq for Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Sgt. Joshua Newren enlisted in May 1992 and shipped two days before his 18th birthday, to Fort Knox. Upon completion of Basic he went into ROTC on a scholarship to New Mexico Military Institute in Roswell. In 1993 he went to Basic Airborne School and then on to Fort Lewis for ROTC advanced camp. He then transferred to the 19th Special Forces and was commissioned a 2nd Lt. He served in various positions until he resigned his commission and got out in 2000. After 9/11 he felt the need to get back in and enlisted as a Food Service Specialist and served in that job until April 2005. He then accepted the position of Retention NCO for the 19th Special Forces Group in April of 2005.

Staff Sgt. Paul Peterson enlisted in the Army in 1985 as a 13B and spent four years with the 3/35th FA in West Germany as a special weapon chief. After the fall of the Berlin Wall he came back to Utah and served with

the 96th ARCOM at Fort Douglas as a supply sergeant. He did a tour with them during Desert Storm. When he came home, he joined Service Battery 140th FA that was later changed to the 145th FA in 1998. He is now the Battalion Ammo NCO. He was selected to be a state retention NCO for the Artillery in April of 2005.

Staff Sgt. Michael Wolverton enlisted in Feb 1987 in the Idaho National Guard and the later transferred into the 145th FA in Logan in 1989. In 1994, C Battery 145th reorganized and linked up with Idaho and became 1st platoon 148th FA. He worked his way up the chain and became an E-6 and volunteered in 2003 to deploy with the 116th Engineers for a tour in Iraq. Upon completion of this tour of duty, he returned home and was transferred back to the 148th and was selected as a state retention NCO for the Artillery in April 2005

Middle row left to right: Sgt. Scott Wolfe joined the Army in 1998 as a scout. His first duty station at Fort Polk he made squad leader and was in charge of his own humvee. He spent the last two years of his ac-

tive duty as a dismount gunner and armorer in Germany. He then joined the California Guard, and made Sgt. and was deployed to Dugway for Operation Noble Eagle. He liked Utah so much that when his unit returned home he stayed in Utah and joined the 135th AVIM. He was selected as a 97th Troop Command retention NCO in April 2005.

Sgt. Robert Walter has been in the military for over 16 years, 14 years with the Marine Corps in avionics. He did two overseas tours in Japan. He joined the Utah Guard in July 2001 and has been with the 300th MI and was selected as the State Retention NCO for the MI units in April of 2005.

Staff Sgt. Steven K. Greenwell enlisted in the Guard in Oct. 1988 as a 13B cannon crewmember. He missed FIREX '88 by a couple of months. He experienced every position on an 8-inch howitzer in B Battery 145th in Ogden. He transferred to A Battery in Brigham City as a gun chief in 1994 and was a chief for a few months before the reorganization when Brigham and Logan Utah became the 148th B Battery attached to the Idaho Guard. He served as an ammo team chief until 1999 then transferred back to A Battery, 145th on a 155mm towed howitzer and spent one winter camp with them. He was then selected as a Paladin Gun Chief, the best job in the Artillery. He was Gun Chief of B-13 (bodacious) which is now shooting endless fire missions at Fiddlers Green. He was deployed for the 2002 Olympics and had a brief deployment for Operation Iraqi Freedom which was spent at Fort Bliss, Texas. Upon completion of deployment in March 2005 he came

home and transferred into the 115th Engineer Group and was selected as a retention NCO for the group, which is the only job comparable to being a Gun Chief.

Sgt. 1st Class Robert B. Wilkin-son joined the Army in October of 1983, as a 91B, in the 25th Infantry Division in Hawaii. As a combat medic he received the expert field medical badge and sapper leader tab. He completed a tour for Desert Storm with the 47th Field Hospital. He was stationed at Fort Sam Houston, Fitzsimons AMC and William Beaumont as a trauma nurse, Walter Reed and Madigan AMC as a dialysis NCOIC. He joined the 144th as they were deactivating. He ended in the 328th Combat Support Hospital at Fort Douglas, Utah. He then became an AGR recruiter in 1999. He transferred to the 1457th in 2003 and was selected as a retention NCO for the 1457th in April 2005.

Front row left to right: Spec. Chantell Montano has worked full time for Army Aviation support facility since January 2003. She started to work in the motor pool in December of 2004. She attended annual training in Nicaragua for three weeks. She was selected in April 2005 for the state retention NCO for the aviation.

Staff Sgt. Doug Fowler joined the Utah National Guard in 1994 with HHB, 222nd as AFATDS computer operator in the Battalion Fire Direction Center and spent 9 ½ years with them before transferring to I Corps in February 2004. In April of 2005 he was selected as a Retention NCO for the artillery in St. George and Cedar City, Utah.

Sgt. Devin Shelly joined the Utah Guard in May 1996 as a member of the 1457th Engineer Battalion. He

was deployed for Operation Iraqi Freedom in Feb. 2003. After deployment, he remained with 1457th Engineer Battalion and was selected as a retention NCO for the 1457th in April of 2005.

Sgt. Jennifer Kelly, who is our right-hand soldier, went to basic training in September of 2001 training at Fort Sam Houston, Texas to be a combat medic. After completing the training she worked in G-1 medical. She was then hired by the State Command Sergeant Major Del Smith. Her duties include the state coordinator for the non prior service personnel training course, and color guard/honor guard/ military funeral honors coordinator. She is a member of the State Honor Guard and has been involved from the beginning with the states retention mission. We all turn to her for support. Without her, the wheels of motion would not exist. She is one of the most vital assets we have as retention NCOs.

There is no greater satisfaction than seeing a smile on a Soldier when he receive his bonus or give him recognition for his extension. Seeing a Soldier receive his 20-year letter says retention works. Retention doesn't start 30-days before ETS, or even the day of their ETS. That might be how it was done. Retention starts day one and continues every drill, every annual training, and every time we, as leaders and retention NCOs, come into contact with our Soldiers. Its simply saying: we care about you, and thanks for your service, it's greatly appreciated. If we all work together and remember it's the Soldier and his family who is most important to the unit, the Guard and our country, we will stop the backdoor losses.

115th Maintenance Company Family Readiness Group takes on Iraqi School Service Project



Jolleen Larson packs boxes for shipping to Iraqi schools

"From Highland, Utah with love," is what neighborhood children wrote on over 200 baseballs ready to ship to Iraq. "If we're going to win the hearts and minds of the Iraqi people, we need to start with the children," said Jolleen Larson, whose husband, Master Sgt. Rusty Larson, is currently deployed in Iraq with the 115th Maintenance Company.

As a member of the 115th Maintenance Company Family Readiness Group, Larson spearheaded a service project to get school and playground supplies for two Iraqi schools that her husband's unit is helping to support. In Iraq, the unit has already built bookcases and desks for the schools.

"Instead of joining the whining wives club, I want to do something to occupy my time while my husband is gone," Larsen said. Larsen's goal is to provide 540 backpacks full of

supplies such as pencils, paper, scissors, rulers, erasers and markers for each child and 31 "teacher boxes" with staplers, pencil sharpeners, glue and notebooks. "I'd like to make sure the stuff is already sorted in the backpacks and boxes so each individual is guaranteed to get something and not just ship everything over there and have them sort through a huge shipping box full of pencils, because that way it might never make it to the schools and just end up on the black market."

Larsen has taken great care in choosing which items to include in this "back-to-school" shipment. "I'm sure this will be overwhelming enough for them to receive, so in the fall we will follow up with another shipment of heat sensitive items, such as crayons and glue sticks for the children to add to their backpacks. I hope to keep sending more items throughout the school year," said Larson.

Girls' sandals, hairbrushes and journals have also been donated and

those will go to an Iraqi orphanage. "Girls are really second-class citizens over there and for me it's not fair, and I want to get some of the girly things for them so they feel special." Local businesses have helped. "The Home Depot was great," said Larson. "They donated some of the hardware to help build the bookcases and desks and they let us purchase other items for a nominal charge."

Cash donations helped for purchases too. "We had a huge success selling "Mulligan's" (do-overs) at a golf tournament at Thanksgiving Point. "We raised about \$1,300 with this event."

This project has been a huge undertaking for Larsen, but feels it is a project well worth it. "I'm living in a state of goose bumps... I live in a state where I feel I'm making a difference in someone's life," said Larsen. "I'm so excited about this. If I wasn't doing this service project, I would have been doing a service project somewhere."



Local children help load donated items for Iraqi Schools

Environmental Resources Management

2005 Conservation Training

By Douglas Johnson

The Utah National Guard Environmental Resources Management hosted the second annual National Guard Bureau Conservation Training for 2005. The Conservation Training was conducted over five-days in Park City, Utah. The primary purpose was to train natural and cultural resource managers in existing and new environmental requirements, and their integration in support of the military mission. Topics included Sikes Act implementation, Endangered Species Act, Cultural Resource Management, Integrated Pest Management Planning, Native American Graves & Repatriation Act, Geographical Information Systems, National Environmental Policy Act, Integrated Training Area Management, Wildfire Management Planning, Army Compatible Use Buffers, Range Construction, Noise, and Wetlands.

The teaching sessions, held in Park City, were taught by leading experts in each field, including NGB staff, Brig. Gen. Stanley Gordon (ret.), Lt Col. John L. Crane, Jr., PhD, and Douglas Johnson welcomed attendees on behalf of the Utah National Guard. Col. Gerry Walter, Director (NGB-ARE) and Eric Anderson, Conservation Branch Chief (NGB-ARE) briefed attendees on major developments. Lt. Col. Robert Dunton, ERM-CW, addressed the trainer's perspective, Col. Scot Olson, Camp Williams Training Site Manager, addressed Camp Williams concerns. James Long, PhD, presented an overview of the ERM and Utah State University long standing collaboration in



Photo provided by ERM

A wild fire on Camp Williams Reservation

Ecosystem Management of Military lands. Through his illustrations and examples, Dr. Long demonstrated the Utah National Guard's commitment to integrating sound science in support of land management and the Utah National Guard's mission.

Two field trips, one natural resource oriented and one cultural resource oriented, demonstrated the Utah National Guard's innovation in sound military land management. The natural resource trip to Camp Williams focused on three principle concerns to the military mission: wildfire management, vegetation management, and encroachment. The Environmental Resources Management and Camp Williams wildfire management demonstrations enhanced our understanding of fire ecology, the use of grazing goats to reduce fire fuels, planning for suppression, and using a Geographical Information System to develop predictive models of wildfire behavior. Vegetation management is founded on sound floral planning level surveys, environmental restoration, and noxious weed abatement. Lastly, encroachment is the impact to the military mission from surrounding

suburban development. This was discussed from the Camp Williams and neighboring community of Eagle Mountain perspective. This was illustrated through a Geographical Information System model of development, and an example of ecological impacts was illustrated by effects of suburbanization on mountain lion behavior at Camp Williams.

The cultural resources field trip examined historic structure preservation and archeological issues with a visit to Fort Douglas Museum. The Fort evolved from a frontier military outpost to a training and support facility through two world wars and other smaller military conflicts.

The 2005 Conservation Training hosted by the Utah National Guard Environmental Resources Management, was a resounding success, receiving high marks in feedback from most attendees. It was attended by 210 natural and cultural resource managers and technicians representing the National Guards from 49 states and territories, and demonstrated the advances made by the Utah National Guard in an effective conservation program.

Get to know the Utah National Guard Family Readiness Organization



Photo provided by Family Programs Office

The Utah National Guard Child & Youth Services Great Utah Road Tour, July 2005

By Sundee Peterson

The Family Programs Office

The purpose of the National Guard Family Program is to contribute to readiness and retention in the National Guard and enhance the quality of life for all Guard members, their families, and the communities in which they live.

Family Programs accomplishes this through the services and programs that are provided to Guard members and their families. Some of the programs and services provided include, but are not limited to: Family Readiness Groups, Child and Youth Services, Guard Family Team Building, Guard Family Action Plan, Family Assistance Centers, Corporate Sponsorship Programs, Volunteer Training, etc.

Additionally, the Family Program Office staff work very closely with Family Readiness Group Leaders and Volunteers. These volunteers provide a valuable service that can be measured by time and money but

also by personal satisfaction and increased quality of life for themselves and the service members and families that they serve. They are intricate part of Family Programs. Their volunteerism strengthens our community by bringing people together to work on projects and activities, and by offering the moral support that is often needed in these changing times.

Family Readiness Groups

A Family Readiness Group is an organization of family members, volunteers, and Guard members belonging to a unit, that together provide an avenue of mutual support and assistance, and a network of communication among family members, the chain of command, and community resources. The Family Readiness Group is the mainstay of family member knowledge and involvement in unit activities during peacetime and during periods of separation. Thus improving family awareness of the unit, its' missions

and functions. If you do not know who the Family Readiness Group Leader is for your unit, please contact either Sundee Peterson or your local FAC representative for assistance.

Child & Youth Services

Utah National Guard Child and Youth Services (CYS) provides ongoing monthly activities for Utah National Guard children. CYS also supervises and advises the UTNG Kids Youth Council and UTNG kids activities and events. In addition, CYS provides annual activities such as Youth Symposium, Camp Williams Youth Camp, Southern Utah Mini Camp, Great Utah Road Tour, Golf Camps and Clinics, and a Halloween Bash.

Utah National Guard Kids is our Utah National Guard Youth 4-H Club. Youth Council is a group of youth volunteers who meet on a monthly basis to plan and coordinate leadership opportunities, get-togethers, and events for Utah National Guard Youth. Most of our Youth Council members are veterans of de-

ployment or presently experiencing a deployment. This is their mission statement:

We, the Utah National Guard Youth, will support and serve all of the Youth of the Utah National Guard, especially those who are experiencing deployment. We will provide opportunities to share feelings, thoughts, and ideas. We will always honor the men and women fighting for America.

If you have a teenager 14-17 who is interested in joining Youth Council, please contact Annette Barnes, Child and Youth Services, 801-523-4153.

Family Assistance Centers

The purpose of a Family Assistance Center (FAC) is to provide information, assistance, guidance, and referral services to units and families of guard members in the event of unit mobilization and deployment. The FACs will provide support and service to any family member of deployed military personnel regardless of service or component who lives in that area. Areas of support include, but are not limited to: Emergency Financial Assistance, Dependant ID Card and DEERS Enrollment scheduling, and Medical/Tricare assistance.

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The Utah National Guard's 23rd Army Band

Fifty Years of Honoring Utah's Veterans



First Veterans' Day Concert in 1955

By SFC Bryce Bird, 23rd Army Band

The 23rd Army Band has just completed a highly successful summer season. The band has performed well attended concerts and ceremonies for numerous civilian and military organizations. They performed more than 20 concerts throughout the state. This included 11 performances and a parade during the month of July with concerts in the communities of Escalante, Bryce Canyon, Springdale, Kanab and Spanish Fork. The performance in the town of Escalante was held in their city's Veterans Memorial Park. The memorial was beautifully constructed and listed the names of each member of their community ever to have served in the armed forces. This is an example of the feelings of patriotism the band experienced at many events. Concerts have generally been well attended and appreciated, clearly an expression of gratitude and respect for the members of the Utah National Guard and all of the armed services serving throughout the world.

The 23rd Army Band and the Utah National Guard are moving toward attaining a milestone with the upcoming presentation of the

50th annual Veterans' Day concert on November 11, 2005. This event is the longest running Veterans' Day celebration in the nation. This tradition commenced in 1955 one year after the establishment of the national holiday created to honor those veterans upon whose shoulders we stand. The initial concert was viewed by an audience of over 3,000 despite the winter storm that blanketed the area that evening. The tradition moved forward with an annual evening of the best patriotic music featuring both the Utah National Guard's 23rd Army Band and the combined choruses of the Granite School District.

The concert's initial location was the Salt Lake Tabernacle but was later moved to the Huntsman Center on the University of Utah campus in order to accommodate growing public support as well as growing numbers of choir members.

Beginning in 2002, the audience

grew to include television audiences through live broadcasts of the concert over local public television stations. Also that year, the Armed Forces Television Network began to televise the event, reaching a worldwide audience.

The purpose of each concert has been to provide to the audience, an evening of reflection upon the freedoms, beauty, and traditions we enjoy in this great nation; to recognize the sacrifices of ordinary citizens who stood up when called to fulfill their duty no matter the cost, and to remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice in the defense of freedom. These goals are accomplished through the sharing of beautiful traditional melodies, stirring American marches, the hymns of each service, "Taps" and the inspiring "Battle Hymn of the Republic."

Make your plans now to come and share in this historic event at 7:00 p.m. on November 11, 2005 at the Huntsman Center, University of Utah campus, Salt Lake City, Utah.



Photos provided by 23rd Army Band

Veterans' Day Concert in 2004. This year's concert will be the 50th year of the 23rd Army Band has supported this event

Interactive Training for the FDC Course

By Sgt. Scott Faddis

Students and instructors at the 640th Regional Training Institute, Utah National Guard, are validating a new process for teaching the Fire Direction Control Specialist-13D course. This pilot course uses interactive media instruction and hands-on training to replace the typical lecture style class.

This 13D course is a first for the Field Artillery, integrating newer technology and programs with the skills of experienced 13D instructors Staff Sgt. Eric Irons and Staff Sgt. Andy Wade to give background and train the students.

"The Army is leaning towards making many MOS's interactive media instruction classes," said Irons. "We are validating this first 13D course for the Army."

Along with being the first to use this style of training, the 640th RTI is also introducing the latest version of Advanced Field Artillery Tactical Data System (AFATDS). AFATDS is the program the FDC's use to communicate digitally with the gun batteries.

According to Wade, this program is the cutting edge of Artillery programs. "It is so new that it has not even been fielded yet," said Wade about version 6.4 of AFTDS, which is scheduled to be fielded in September of this year.

The Army is using interactive media instruction training to allow a more hands-on approach to training. The computer based training allows for fewer instructors to train more students, while giving each student the same valuable training.

"With all of the deployments,

the Army doesn't have enough 13D to teach the classes and work in the batteries, so they're trying this to free up some of the Deltas," said Irons.

The IMI training uses a self paced method which can be more effective and allow more students to be trained at the same time.

The training and programs were still in the testing phase, so they had their share of problems the class had to work through.

To combat this problem the instructors also used computer-based trainings provided by the U.S. Army's Communication Electronics Command and Raytheon.

Having the most up to date technology and programs enabled them to run the best version of AFATDS, "additional trainers were a big help to make the class run smoother," said Irons.

One of the students, Staff Sgt. Terry Boltinghouse said, "I liked how hands-on it was."

During the course, the 640th RTI instructors incorporated a live-fire field training exercise (FTX). During the FTX, students performed all of the skills that they had learned: setting up a digital communication network with the gun battery; receiving fire missions from the forward observer; performing safety checks; and sending the fire mission. The live-fire allowed the students to



Staff Sgt. Andy Wade works with Staff Sgt. Terry Boltinghouse and Sgt. Garry Graham in interactive training

Photo by Sgt. Scott Faddis

see everything come together all at once.

The FTX was valuable for the students to see their role in the bigger mission. For Boltinghouse the live-fire was his first opportunity to see all of the pieces of artillery come together. Boltinghouse was formally in the Air National Guard and recently joined the Army. "It really brought everything together," he said.

"The field portion helps us to see how the past 10 days of training will set up in a real environment," said Graham.

One of the purposes for the pilot program was to find problem areas to make the necessary corrections before implementing IMI training Army wide. The feedback provided by instructors and students at the 640th RTI will make the 13D course a much more effective and valuable training experience for all Soldiers.

Detachment 4, 141st MI Battalion in Iraq



Photo from UTNG files

Families wait anxiously

By Staff Sgt. Joseph Schmolke,

The twenty-eight Soldiers of Detachment 4, 141st Military Intelligence Battalion returned home to their families in mid-February 2005, after a year long deployment to Iraq. Led by Maj. Anthony Löfgren, the Detachment arrived in the Iraqi Theatre on February 21, 2004. The Detachment was assigned to the 502d MI Battalion, an active component unit from Ft. Lewis, Washington. The 502 MI Battalion was deployed to fulfill the intelligence mission in the Baghdad and Multi-National Central South areas of operation. As soon as these Soldiers arrived in Baghdad, they were scattered to augment and run teams throughout the Central and Central South areas.

Many Soldiers remained in Baghdad, assigned to A Company and B Company of the 502d. Others worked for the 502d from the remote cities of An Najaf, Karbala, Al Kut, Ad Diwaniyah and Al Hillah; assigned to Maj. Löfgren, the commander of 56

the provisional C Company of the 502d. Some Soldiers were sent to the 1st Cavalry Regiment, the 1st Infantry Division, the 1st Armored Division or the 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment in direct support of their combat operations, working in locations such as Talil and Fallujah. Some Soldiers were even attached to Marine Expeditionary Units, in order to support their intelligence missions.

Each Soldier experienced their own personal deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Each Soldier dealt with his own trials and enjoyed their own triumphs. Many Soldiers experienced combat, some much closer than others. Unit members reveled stories about improvised explosive devices that missed their convoy by mere seconds, explosives that blew up on the other side of their vehicle and the numerous times that insurgents fired at them, but no one realized it at the time.

Each Soldier returned home with his own experiences, but also as a

cohesive unit because, together, they had acted the part of consummate professionals, the best at their Military Intelligence specialties. These twenty-eight men overcame many fears and struggles to provide the example that attributes to the excellent reputation of the Soldiers of the 300th Military Intelligence Brigade. Although separated throughout their deployment, these Soldiers united to truly become a band of brothers. It is difficult for any Soldier that has spent a year of their life "in the sand" to ignore emotions of pride, sadness and patriotism that are so closely connected to everyday world news.

Years from now, when I am bouncing my grandson on my knee and he asks what I did during the Iraq war, I will be able to turn to him and tell him of the brave men who fought beside me. I will regale him with stories, both humorous and full of fear, of one of the greatest experiences of my life; made so by the great men of Detachment 4, 141st Military Intelligence Battalion.

ATTENTION!

You may be eligible for medical coverage under TRICARE Reserve Select.

How do I know if I'm eligible?

- You must have been called to Active Duty under Title 10 in support of a Contingency Operation. (Contingency Operations include but not limited to: Operations Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom, and Iraqi Freedom.)
- You must have served on these orders for 90 days or more. You are eligible for 1 year of coverage for every 90 days served.

How much does it cost?

- The current monthly premium: \$75 for service member only
 \$233 for member and family
- Annual Deductibles:

| E-4 and Below | E-5 and Above |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| \$50/individual or \$100/family | \$150/person or \$300/family |
| Per fiscal year | Per fiscal year |

• Catastrophic Cap \$1000

- Pharmacy: \$3 Generic Prescriptions
 \$9 Name Brand Prescriptions

How do I enroll?

- There is a 3 step process to enroll:
 - Step 1: You must log onto www.dmdc.osd.mil/Guard-ReservePortal and enter into a service agreement. Your "DFAS Pin" will be the same as your "MYPAY Pin" for login. *The years of service you enter must match the number of coverage years you want to purchase.
 - Step 2: Execute the service agreement. Print the service agreement and sign. Have your commander sign and your unit forward it to the G1 SIDPERS Branch at JFHQ.
 - Step 3: You must log back onto the website to complete your enrollment form. Print your enrollment form and mail it into TRICARE with your first month premium.

YOU MUST ACT NOW!

Members who separated from qualifying active duty on or before 26 April 2005 have until **28 October 2005 to take advantage of this benefit.

***All other soldiers who returned after 26 April 2005 must complete the service agreement (Step 1) prior to the end of their qualifying active duty. Steps 2-3 must be completed prior to the end of TAMP.

For further information on eligibility or enrollment process, contact your local Family Assistance Center at 1-866-456-4507 or SFC Fischer at (801) 523-4232.

Get the Facts...

Learn More About the SGLI Increase to \$400,000.

How Much Will SGLI Increase By?

The maximum level of Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance coverage will be increased from \$250,000 to \$400,000 on **September 1, 2005**.

Who Will Be Affected?

Anyone in service on September 1, 2005, will have their coverage increased to \$400,000, even if they previously declined or elected lesser coverage. If they still desire no coverage or less than the maximum, they will have to go to their Personnel Office and re-elect no coverage or less than the maximum.

What Coverage Amounts Will Be Available?

Servicemembers can only elect coverage in increments of \$50,000. Previously, members could elect coverage in increments of \$10,000.

Therefore, the only SGLI coverage amounts available will be:

- \$50,000
- \$100,000
- \$150,000
- \$200,000
- \$250,000
- \$300,000
- \$350,000
- \$400,000

How Will The Increase Affect VGLI members?

Members in the VGLI Program before September 1, 2005 will not be affected. However, all separating servicemembers covered under SGLI on or after September 1, 2005 in an amount greater than \$250,000 will be able to convert to VGLI at the new higher level. For example:

| SGLI Coverage at Separation | Max VGLI Coverage |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| \$400,000 | \$400,000 |
| \$350,000 | \$350,000 |

How Much Will The Additional Coverage Cost?

The premium rates for SGLI coverage will remain the same. Currently, the rate is 6.5 cents per \$1,000 per month, or \$16.25 per month for \$250,000. Therefore, if a member elects the new maximum coverage of \$400,000, they will pay \$26.00 per month.

Will Certain Servicemembers Receive Free Coverage?

SGLI members serving in areas or operations designated by the Secretary of Defense as combat operations or zones of combat, will have the premiums for \$150,000 of coverage paid for by the Department of Defense. This is only while they are serving in designated areas or operations.

Once they are no longer serving in such an area they will once again have to pay the premiums themselves.

The examples in the table below show how the free coverage will work.

| Coverage Elect- ed By Member | Serving in Area or Operation Designated by DoD as Combat | Coverage Paid for by DoD | Claim Amount (If death oc- curs) |
|---------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|--|
| \$400,000 | Yes | \$150,000 | \$400,000 |
| \$50,000 | Yes | \$150,000 | \$200,000 |
| \$0 | Yes | \$150,000 | \$150,000 |
| \$0 | No | \$0 | \$0 |
| \$50,000 | No | \$0 | \$50,000 |
| \$400,000 | No | \$0 | \$400,000 |

Will The Increase Be Retroactive To A Specific Date?

Yes. The Department of Defense will be paying a death gratuity of \$150,000 for deaths that occurred in specified combat conditions on or after October 7, 2001 but before September 1, 2005 or were incurred in the theater of operations of Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom. This gratuity is in addition to the existing Department of Defense death gratuity that is increasing from \$12,420 to \$100,000 for the same group of service members.

Where Should I Go For More Information?

| You are: | Type of Informa- tion You Need | Who To Contact |
|--|--|---|
| Casualty Officer | Claims Assistance | Office of Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance at 1-800-419-1473 |
| Casualty Officer | Retroactive Death Gra- tuities | Your Branch of Service |
| Military Service Coordina- tor | General Program Informa- tion/Application & Claim Assistance | VA Insurance Service Staff Greg Hosmer: 1-215-842-2000 x 4280 <i>Kristan Hoffman: 1-215-842-2000 x 3094</i> |
| Other Program Coordina- tor (e.g. OIF/OEF Coordi- nator) | General Program Informa- tion/Application & Claim Assistance | VA Insurance Service Staff Greg Hosmer: 1-215-842-2000 x 4280 <i>Kristan Hoffman: 1-215-842-2000 x 3094</i> |
| VA Regional Office Staff | General Program Informa- tion/Application & Claim Assistance | VA Insurance Service Staff Greg Hosmer: 1-215-842-2000 x 4280 <i>Kristan Hoffman: 1-215-842-2000 x 3094</i> |
| Servicemember/Separating Servicemember | Payroll/Personnel Ques- tions | Unit Commander |
| Servicemember/Separating Servicemember | General Program Informa- tion/Application & Claim Assistance | Office of Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance at 1-800-419-1473 |

UTARNG Promotions 1 Mar 2005 to 1 Aug 2005

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| BG FRANDSEN, BRUCE CHARLES | CW3 GRANT, ROBERT TROY | SSG AVERY, BRANDON CHARLES |
| | CW3 HALES, KERRY BEVAN | SSG BINNS, MELISSA LEE |
| | CW3 HERNANDEZ, ANDRES TAPIA | SSG BUSK, BRYAN RICHARD |
| COL BLACKNER, BRAD K | CW3 NIELSON, CAMERON ALVIN | SSG CAPASSO, LOUIS HORUFF |
| COL FELLOWS, JOHN ROBERT | CW3 WADE, DERRICK STEVEN | SSG CHRISTIANSEN, SHANE N |
| COL MITCHELL, JEFFREY FLOYD | CW3 WAITE, SETH CLEVE | SSG CLEMANS, AARON RUSSELL |
| COL TAILLAC, PETER PROVOSTY | | SSG CRANE, BENJAMIN BARNEY |
| | CW2 DAVIS, LINDA HARUKO | SSG CRAWLEY, MICHAEL O JR |
| LTC ESPLIN, STEVEN KEN | CW2 FONSECA, JOSE E | SSG DAHL, KIRK CHRISTIAN |
| LTC FULLER, LOREN SCOTT | CW2 ISSA, JEFFREY GLENN | SSG DICE, ALAN JON |
| LTC GLAD, NEIL CASEY | CW2 SANDBERG, ROBERT D | SSG GABBITAS, GAYLIN L |
| LTC GRAFF, GEORGE BURTON | | SSG GRAHAM, MATTHEW PAUL |
| LTC HARRINGTON, ROBERT D | SGM ADAMSON, JESSE R | SSG GREEN, ROBERT DEE |
| LTC LAMB, BRIAN W | SGM HASKELL, CRAIG IVAN | SSG HANSEN, RICHARD AAGE |
| LTC MARCUS-MADSEN, FRANCES | | SSG HOLLAND, ERIC WILLIAM |
| LTC WATT, STEVEN RANDALL | MSG ANDERSEN, STEVEN L | SSG INGELS, ROBERT RAY II |
| | MSG BONDOC, JUNE PADILLA | SSG JACKSON, MIKEL JUSTIN |
| MAJ BRYANT, COY KAY | MSG CAPERS, WILLIAM T | SSG JOHANSEN, DAVID ERNEST |
| MAJ COLE, GARY MONROE JR | MSG DEMILL, CRAIG | SSG LARA, ESTEBAN EDUARDO |
| MAJ FURUTA, DAVID LEE | MSG HADDOCK, JAMES ROBERT | SSG MAYCOCK, KILEY STEVEN |
| MAJ KLEIN, HENRY JORGE | MSG IRONS, BRET MICHAEL | SSG MCVAY, RUSSELL JOEL T |
| MAJ LUND, ROBERT ALAN | MSG LOVE, JAMES RALPH | SSG PENDLETON, COURTNEY D |
| MAJ NALWALKER, ROBERT J | MSG MCCLURE, KENT RHYS | SSG PERRENOUD, KEITH JR |
| MAJ ODOM, STEVEN R | MSG MILLER, MICHAEL M | SSG REED, BENJAMIN DAVID |
| MAJ OSMOND, PATRICK D | MSG SALISBURY, CHARLES B | SSG ROBERTS, MARK ANTHONY |
| MAJ PETERSEN, ERIC DAVID | MSG WATKINS, GRANT MORGAN | SSG ROBISON, ANTHONY BOYD |
| MAJ READING, JASON BRYN | | SSG RYLANDER, APRIL ELISE |
| MAJ ROBERSON, ARTHUR D JR | SFC BLAKE, MATTHEW JOHN | SSG STEEN, TROY ERIK |
| MAJ SORENSEN, DAVID PAUL | SFC BOLTON, GREGORY S | SSG TAIT, RONALD STEVEN |
| MAJ TARBET, BOURKE D IV | SFC CARTER, JONNIE ROSS | SSG THURMAN, KEVIN MERRELL |
| MAJ WALDRON, PAUL EDWARD | SFC CLARK, NANCY SUE | SSG UDINK, PAUL LUKE |
| | SFC CROCKETT, TABER DALE | SSG WALSH, PATRIC RYAN |
| CPT CIVISH, WILLIAM T JR | SFC FISCHER, JENNIFER JUNE | SSG WEBER, JACOB MERRILL |
| CPT DARRINGTON, JOHN L | SFC HARRIS, SHAUN BRET | SSG WERTMAN, MATHEW CHARLES |
| CPT GEISLER, STEVEN BRET | SFC HOEPFNER, CURT EMERY | SSG WIBERG, KYLE DELOS |
| CPT HARUCH, AARON PAUL | SFC HOPKINS, CAROL ANN | SSG YOUNG, DAVID ROBERT |
| CPT MANWARING, TAMMY ELLEN | SFC JARVIS, BRIAN RICHARD | |
| CPT SCOUBES, KEIR ANDREW | SFC MORSE, JEROMY JAMES | SGT AKRE, JOSEPH ALAN |
| CPT SMITH, RICKY NEAL | SFC MYERS, JASON KENNETH | SGT ALLEN, COLTER THOMAS |
| CPT TEBBS, MICAH KENNETH | SFC PYPER, STEVEN ODELL | SGT AUBREY, MICHAEL CROFT |
| | SFC RASMUSSEN, DALE ALDEN | SGT AYALA, DEAN DAVIS |
| 1LT ANDERSON, CLAYTON F | SFC REBER, LANG ERNEST | SGT BARON, MATTHEW CHARLES |
| 1LT CHALMERS, SCOTT ALAN | SFC SHEPHERD, ERIC DOUGLAS | SGT BELL, CHRISTOPHER D |
| 1LT HANCOCK, JONATHAN N | SFC SINNER, JOEL WARREN | SGT BERMAN, ADAM BRADLEY |
| 1LT KERBO, MARTIN WAYNE | SFC SOWER, TAMARA LYN | SGT BLACKBURN, MICHAEL LEE |
| 1LT LEE, JACKSON JAMES | SFC STONEMAN, DANNY LEE | SGT BLUNCK, BRADLEY |
| 1LT LUECK, LANCE PATRICK | SFC THOMSON, ROGER LEE | SGT BONNER, CHRISTOPHER J |
| 1LT MERLETTE, JAMES BROOK | SFC VAN ZANT, BENJIMAN L | SGT BRAUER, HOLLY CRYSTAL |
| 1LT PLEDGER, CHAD ARTHUR | SFC WHITE, SAMUEL COSAND | SGT BROWN, MYCAL FORREST |
| 1LT STEWART, BRANDON VANNOY | | SGT BURNINGHAM, BEAU F |
| 1LT YARDLEY, BRIAN DAN | SSG ANDELIN, JOSEPH QUINCY | SGT BURTON, DAVID HENRY |
| | SSG ARGYLE, WADE BERNELL | SGT BUTTERFIELD, AARON D |
| CW4 HOLDER, STEPHEN MICHAEL | SSG ARVIDSON, MYKLE JARED | SGT CARTER, RAYMOND K IV |
| | SSG ATKINSON, DARREN PAUL | SGT CHATWIN, SCOTT ANTHONY |

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| SGT CHILCOTT, THOMAS AIKEN | SGT WAITE, DUSTIN GERALD | SPC LARA, RICARDO ARTURO |
| SGT CHRISTENSEN, COLE R | SGT WALKER, PHILIP RICHARD | SPC LEWIS, JOSHUA JAMES |
| SGT CHRISTENSEN, JOSEPH VAL | SGT WARRICK, JEFFREY AARON | SPC LUNNEN, JAMISON TAYLOR |
| SGT CHRISTIANSEN, JACOB R | SGT WATSON, SCOTT MICHAEL | SPC MANGUM, WILLIAM B JR |
| SGT COX, AMMON DAVID | SGT WHEELER, DUSTIN J | SPC MARIOTTI, MAURZIO R |
| SGT CROSLAND, SHAWN PAUL | SGT WIGGIN, NICOLE AMANDA | SPC MAUGHAN, LEAH JEAN |
| SGT DAVIES, MICHAEL ROB | SGT WILSON, KRYSTAL MARIE | SPC MCBRIDE, JAMES C |
| SGT DAVIS, BRADLEY JAY | SGT WORKMAN, LUCAS LEONARD | SPC MCCALL, TRENTON LEE |
| SGT DAVIS, ELIZABETH ANNE | SGT ZAINE, JEFFERY SCOTT | SPC MCCULLOCH, NATHAN H |
| SGT ERICKSON, CHRISTINA L | | SPC MENNOR, STEVEN M |
| SGT EVANS, JERRY MARTIN | SPC AH COLT, ROBERT FUGA | SPC MIDDLETON, MELISSA A |
| SGT FIFIELD, JEREMIAH A | SPC ALAMEDA, JESSE | SPC MILLER, DOUGLAS A |
| SGT FREHNER, BRIAN RANDALL | SPC ANDERSON, ROBERT JAY | SPC MORRIS, MATTHEW TIM |
| SGT GENTRY, DWAYNE RUSSELL | SPC ARENAZ, ROXANNE V | SPC MOSER, ANDREW COLIN |
| SGT HARING, DONALD FULLER | SPC BABCOCK, JAROD TERRY | SPC NELSON, AMANDA N |
| SGT HENRY, SHAWN CHARLES | SPC BARNETT, JARED WAYNE | SPC OLSEN, MATHEW LANT |
| SGT HESSLER, HAROLD L JR | SPC BAWDEN, DAVID BRIAN | SPC OLSON, MICHAEL LEE |
| SGT HILL, KENNETH DAVID | SPC BENDER, ROBERT STEVEN | SPC PANTONE, SPENSER M |
| SGT HONE, JERALD MORRIS | SPC BINGHAM, COREY LYNN | SPC PARIS, BERTRAND M |
| SGT JOHNSON, MICHELE BROOK | SPC BINGHAM, DAVID THOMAS | SPC PARKER, BRENDON JOHN |
| SGT JOHNSON, RYAN J | SPC BOYLE, JONPAUL C | SPC PARSON, CHRISTOPHER B |
| SGT JONES, DAVID ELIAS | SPC BUCK, ALISON KAY | SPC RASMUSSEN, STUART L |
| SGT JONES, ERIC LYNN | SPC BUNTEN, KELLEY WILLIAM | SPC RAY, DANIEL L III |
| SGT KAIGHN, KENNETH W | SPC CARTER, BRADY | SPC REDMOND, KENDALL DEE |
| SGT KEEGAN, JEFFREY SCOTT | SPC CHAPMAN, BRENT DAVID | SPC ROBINSON, PAUL SEAN |
| SGT KELLER, DANIEL LOUIS | SPC CHRISTENSEN, LORRINDA A | SPC ROGERS, MELISSA LEE |
| SGT KIPPEN, JEFFERY ALAN | SPC CHRISTENSEN, TROY SCOTT | SPC SALGUERO, JULIO O |
| SGT LESSIG, DANNY ROSS | SPC COFFMAN, JARROD NOEL | SPC SCOTT, DANIEL RAYE |
| SGT MAIMER, NICHOLAS DWAIN | SPC CORNWELL, BRIAN JOHN | SPC SMITH, JOHN DAVID |
| SGT MARQUARDSON, KEVIN T | SPC CURTIS, GERALD R JR | SPC STARKER, PAUL LLOYD |
| SGT MARRE, ADAM CHRISTIAN | SPC CUTLER, JESSICA ANN | SPC STEPHENSON, MICHAEL B |
| SGT MCCLURE, PHILLIP D | SPC DEBENHAM, DANIEL DALE | SPC STEWART, STEVEN WADE |
| SGT MITCHELL, DANIEL T | SPC DECAPOT, TYLER JAMES | SPC SWINYARD, DANIEL JACOB |
| SGT MONAHAN, BRYCE AARON | SPC DEITRICK, TRENT ALAN | SPC VAUGHAN, GLEN ANDREW |
| SGT MURRELL, AARON G | SPC DUFFY, JAMES RAY | SPC WARRICK, JAMES HEBER |
| SGT PAYTON, DANTON ROY | SPC DYRENG, PAUL DOUGLAS | SPC WATSON, RANDY ALLEN |
| SGT QUAREZ, RANDALL SCOTT | SPC FAGAN, ADRIAN HOLBROOK | SPC WEBBER, JOSEPH JOHNSON |
| SGT RALPH, MARK DEAN | SPC FELT, CHRISTOPHER F | SPC WEILER, JUSTIN SHAYNE |
| SGT ROACH, SHAWN RICHARD | SPC FELT, MATTHEW DAVID | SPC WESTOVER, CHAD KEVIN |
| SGT ROBISON, RYAN MARGETTS | SPC GEORGIADOU, ELENI | SPC WHEELER, TIMOTHY REU |
| SGT RODRIGUE, RONALD P JR | SPC GOLD, KARL RICHARD | SPC WHITNEY, CHRISTOPHER G |
| SGT ROGERSON, JENNIFER | SPC HALL, ANDREW CHRISTIAN | SPC WILCOX, JASON DEAN |
| SGT SEPTON, ALEXANDER B | SPC HARMON, JOSHUA LEE | SPC WILLIAMS, JESSICA ANN |
| SGT SIM, JOHN HOUSTON | SPC HARRIS, MATTHEW LYNN | SPC WINDER, JOSHUA LOGAN |
| SGT SMITH, BRYAN HARRIS | SPC HARWARD, STEPHEN R | SPC WINEGAR, LON THOMAS |
| SGT SMITH, HUDSON ROSS | SPC HASSAN, YOUSAF | SPC WIRTHLIN, RODNEY B |
| SGT SMITH, JEREMY MARLIN | SPC HICKS, KYLE LEWIS | |
| SGT SOUTHAM, NATHAN ADRIAN | SPC HILL, JOHN W II | PFC AVILA, ZACHARY JACOB |
| SGT STAGGE, CHRISTOPHER P | SPC HILL, MICHAEL C | PFC BAIR, STEPHEN GLENN |
| SGT STARK, BRYCE REYNOLDS | SPC HO JUSTIN, MARC K | PFC BARRERA, LINDSEY L |
| SGT SUMNER, JOHN MICHAEL | SPC HOLYOAK, RANDALL P | PFC BATEMAN, BRANDON GARY |
| SGT SWEATFIELD, MATTHEW N | SPC HUNT, LEROY VERALED K | PFC BECK, SHAWN LEE |
| SGT TANNER, JOSHUA SMITH | SPC JEWKES, TYLER WAYNE | PFC BERGESEN, TYLER JACOB |
| SGT THOMAS, RYAN DALE | SPC KELLY, RYAN ORD | PFC BRADY, DANIELLE NOEL |
| SGT TIPPETTS, CHASE | SPC KUNTZ, ADAM LEO | PFC BRADY, JEFFREY MARK |
| SGT TRUJILLO, SHAUN TROY | SPC LAKE, JACOB ROBERT | PFC BROWN, DANIEL KENT |

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| PFC BROWN, PHILLIP CHASE | PFC RIDER, JOHN ALMA | PV2 GIFFORD, IAN RAY |
| PFC BURTON, LONDON RONALD | PFC ROUNDY, LEVI ELLIS | PV2 GUBLER, KEATON C |
| PFC CHAMBERLAIN, HYRUM J | PFC SEPEDA, JONATHAN FRANK | PV2 HALL, JASPER NORLEY |
| PFC CHEEVER, MITCHELL ALAN | PFC SHIELDS, RUSSELL YORK | PV2 HATCHER, BRIAN KEITH |
| PFC CLINE, SPENCER DAVID | PFC SPRINGER, RYAN KELLY | PV2 HELMS, COLE ALLAN |
| PFC CROCKETT, THOMAS ADAM | PFC STEVENS, THAD MORGAN | PV2 HENRY, DERRYN MATTHEW |
| PFC DAVIS, SHAWN PAUL | PFC STEWART, NICHOLAS S | PV2 HOULIHAN, JOSEPH E |
| PFC ENNS, BRANDON ZACHARY | PFC STONE, JESSE BRYAN | PV2 HUNT, GEOFFREY THOMAS |
| PFC ESPLIN, SHEA JUSTET | PFC THOMPSON, TRENTON C | PV2 HYDE, WILLIAM GORDON |
| PFC FELSHAW, ROBERT DANIEL | PFC TOIVONEN, PAUL RYAN | PV2 ISOM, RONALD ANTHONY |
| PFC FLOYD, DUSTIN KENT | PFC UDY, BRIAN LYNN | PV2 LAGIGLIA, GINO JOSEPH |
| PFC FRAZIER, KEITH L | PFC VILLALOBOS, RICHARD A JR | PV2 LEE, ZACHARY DANIEL |
| PFC GARDNER, MATTHEW GUY | PFC WALSH, THOMAS PATRICK | PV2 MEINZER, NATHAN BLAKE |
| PFC GIBBS, SHEYLA MAE | PFC Warburton, Emily Kay | PV2 MESSERSMITH, MILES J |
| PFC GIBBS, SHEYLA MAE | PFC WARREN, TYLER BRYON | PV2 MURPHY, PATRICK MICHAEL |
| PFC GIFFORD, RILEY REED | PFC WESTENSKOW, TRAVIS C | PV2 OLSEN, NICHOLAS CONLEY |
| PFC GOLD, AUSTIN JOEL | PFC WHITESIDES, DAYLUN S | PV2 OLSON, JACOB BENJAMIN |
| PFC GOODE, JASON BARRETT | PFC WILSON, HARPER DUSTIN | PV2 PATRICK, KIRK JORDAN |
| PFC GOODRICH, MANDY E | | PV2 PHIPPS, AARON JAMES |
| PFC HAGEMANN, SHANE J | PV2 ACUNA, KOREY SERGIO | PV2 REAMS, JAMES MICHAEL |
| PFC HALLMAN, DANIEL LEE | PV2 ANDERSON, BRYCE T | PV2 REISER, SCOTT ALLAN |
| PFC HAMM, CODY RON | PV2 ANDERSON, DELBERT RON | PV2 ROBBINS, JACOB TYLER |
| PFC HARDMAN, ANDREW DAVID | PV2 ASHWORTH, BRADY W | PV2 ROBERTS, DAVID MICHAEL |
| PFC HART, DEENA RAE | PV2 ATKINSON, IAN K | PV2 SANDOVAL, ROBERT R |
| PFC HEISE, EDGAR ARSENIO | PV2 BENSON, CASSIDI LINN | PV2 SEBASTIAN, DANIEL SCOTT |
| PFC HEITMAN, RYAN JAMES | PV2 BERRY, MICHELLE MARIE | PV2 SIMPER, NATHAN RAYMOND |
| PFC HILL, ANDREW T | PV2 BONIFACIO, MARCK R | PV2 STEADMAN, DUSTIN MAX |
| PFC HOGUE, JOSEPH N | PV2 BRADFORD, MICHAEL KENT | PV2 STEPHENS, DUSTIN WINN |
| PFC INGLE, RICHARD JASON | PV2 CRABTREE, STEPHANIE A | PV2 STOOB, ALEXANDER JOHN |
| PFC JACOBSEN, LANE OSCAR | PV2 DAGOSTINI, JARED TODD | PV2 THOMPSON, JORDAN RAY |
| PFC JOE, LLOYD H | PV2 DALEY, DANNY AUGUSTUS | PV2 TIDWELL, CHRISTOPHER C |
| PFC JONES, BEVIN WILLIS | PV2 DEEMS, RYAN MITCHELL | PV2 TYNER, GLEN MARTIN |
| PFC KELLY, BRETT ROBERT | PV2 EALEY, TODD LEX | PV2 VALENTINE, AARON G |
| PFC KELSEY, RENEE CAROL | PV2 EELE, BRANDY NICHOLE | PV2 WHITE, JUSTIN KEITH |
| PFC KITCHEN, RYAN STANLEY | PV2 FONUA, SUNIA MAX | PV2 WITHERS, JACOB THERAN |
| PFC LAVENTURE, JORDAN LEE | PV2 FOWLER, ROBERT LEON | PV2 WOOD, ANTHON ARNELL |
| PFC LIEBER, JASEN WILLIAM | PV2 FOWLES, JACQUELINE T | |
| PFC LISTON, BRIAN W JR | | |
| PFC LUDLOW, DAVID C JR | | |
| PFC MALUFAU, AMAYA L | | |
| PFC MCCLARY, RICK J | | |
| PFC METCALF, MATTHEW A | | |
| PFC MITCHELL, KADEN D | | |
| PFC MUIRBROOK, BRANDON S | | |
| PFC NAPPER, IAN DONAVON | | |
| PFC NIELSON, JEREMY J | | |
| PFC OLSEN, DEVIN DEAN | | |
| PFC OLSEN, SONNY JOE | | |
| PFC OTT, MATILDE IDANIA | | |
| PFC PALMER, JESSE COLT | | |
| PFC PAXTON, ROBERT M | | |
| PFC PENNEY, JOSHUA KADE | | |
| PFC PICKETT, MARK HOWARD | | |
| PFC PILCH, JOSHUA CHARLES | | |
| PFC PINON-MOLINA, RICARDO | | |
| PFC RAWLINSON, KYLE C | | |



Photo by Terry Haslam

Members of the Utah National were honored during the Freedom Festival Parade on the 4th of July in the Provo

Master Sgt. Randall S. Adams retired from the Utah National Guard Aug. 4, 2005. A farewell party was held at the Readiness Center at Camp Williams. At the farewell party Adams' daughter presented him this poem, that she wrote for him. Master Sgt. Adams was so touched that he asked that we publish it. We were touched also.



"Let me tell you of a man I see
He's a soldier, a husband, and a father of three.
His stance is straight, his head's held high.
His love for his Country, you see in his eye.
He's worn his uniform each day with pride.
His honor, his patriotism, he can not hide.
His boots always clean, with a perfect spit shine.
His uniform pressed neatly, with a perfect creased line.
This man is a soldier from head to toe.
So today is a sad day, as he lets it all go.
A new path he will start, as this one ends.
He says good-bye to colleagues, and many good friends.
But Dad, as you walk away, keep your head held high,
You were one of the best, this you can not deny.
The pride of a soldier will always be in you.
It's who you are and what you've stayed true to.
Your time has come, God has a new plan.
A new journey begins, and with you we stand.
Days of the uniform may no longer be.....
But Dad, you will always be a Soldier to me."

A Tribute to a Soldier



Photo from UNG Files



Photo by Terry Haslam

The Utah National Guard sponsored this entry in Provo's Freedom Festival 2005, July 4th Parade. Representing the Army Guard was Sgt. Jordan Grimstead who was the Soldier of the Year for 2004. Representing the Air Guard was Senior Airman Sephanie Wassmer who was the Airman of the Year 2004. Representing the Family Support was Master Sgt. Robert Bean for the Air and Sgt 1st Class Doug Kunkel his wife Dona and their 18 year-old son, for the Army. The entry was a big hit with the crowd

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